

# THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1912

TO-DAYS FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v NEATH

Gloucester, who stayed the week-end at Swansea, came on to Neath on Monday to play the first of the two matches arranged with the All Blacks this season. From the team which put up such a good fight at Swansea on Saturday, G. Vears, G. Holford, and W. Johns dropped out, and with Hudson and Lodge also absent the City were weakly represented.

Neath fielded a "skeleton" team with eight of their regular players absent from injuries and other causes.

The teams were : –

Gloucester. – C. Cook; W. Staunton, J. Hamblin, L. Hamblin, and W. Washbourne; W. Dix and W. Hall; H. Berry, F. Pegler, J. Meadows, S. Smart, G. Griffiths, N. Hayes, J. Harris, and another.

Neath. – Glyn Gethin; Frank Rees, Edgar Thomas, Handel Richards, and Gower; "Shon" Evans and J. Powell; Howell Davies, Glyn Stephens, Tim Jenkins, W. Hopkins, Ralph Williams, Tom Thomas, W. Davies, and Morgan Lloyd.

The weather conditions were most wretched. Heavy rain fell and the ground was sodden and greasy, with pools of water here and there. Gloucester started with the wind at their backs. The first line-out was formed in the Neath 25, and the opening exchanges were fairly even. Gloucester and Neath were penalised in turn for scrum infringements. Aided by the wind the visitors had rather the better of the exchanges, but so far no marked superiority was shown on either side.

Glyn Gethin saved his side in splendid style, and took play to the half-way. The Neath forwards did some smart work in the loose, but were driven back by a penalty kick, taken by J. Hamblin. Hall, from a favourable position, made an abortive attempt at goal.

Still Gloucester attacked with vigour, and Dix only just failed to score after a brilliant run. Gloucester continued on the aggressive, but Neath kept their lines intact with great difficulty.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester ..... Nil  
Neath ..... Nil

Neath had the wind advantage in the second half, and a patent factor it was in the game. The All Blacks at once assumed the aggressive, and Powell cut out a nice opening for Handel Richards, who was held up on the Gloucester line.

The visitors soon worked out of danger, and a penalty kick taken later by Glyn Gethin yielded no result. Gloucester beat off attack after attack in masterly style, Hall being prominent.

Thomas scored for Neath.

RESULT :

Neath ..... 1 try (3 points)  
Gloucester ..... Nil