

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1930

## A POINTLESS DRAW

### HARD GAME AT CHELTENHAM

### GLOUCESTER WELL HELD

The clashing of the County fixture robbed the first of the two matches between Gloucester and Cheltenham of a good deal of interest.

The City had to call on no fewer than seven reserves, whilst Cheltenham had to replace Fry and Osborne, also with the Gloucestershire team at Camborne, as well as Rodway, Harry and Thomas.

### GLOUCESTER

BACK : L. Masters.

THREE-QUARTERS : L. Franklin, —. Spackman, G. Davies, and L. Abbey.

HALF-BACKS : F. Price and Roy James (capt.).

FORWARDS : F. Russell, J. Hemming, T. Hiam, W. Welshman, Dr. Perkins, G. Fowke, D. Crichton-Miller, and N. Powell.

### CHELTENHAM

BACK : D. J. Walter.

THREE-QUARTERS : L. Goddard, E. —. Taylor, G. E. Vaughan, and T. H. Clarke.

HALF-BACKS : G. Davies and E. Goodwin.

FORWARDS : A. Castle, H. Beck, —. Meek, N. Harris, V. Williams, E. Butler, W. Febrey, and D. Howell.

Referee : Mr. R. I. Scorer.

## THE GAME

Cheltenham kicked off, and Goodwin having got the ball from the first scrum, threw it to Goddard, but it did not come to hand. Gloucester had the next scrum but Roy James was robbed of the ball, and Cheltenham had a chance, but G. Davies could not get up in time to prevent James kicking into touch. The latter again secured from the ensuing scrum. The visitors' threes handled nicely until checked.

In the home 25, Howell got off-side, and Roy James had a splendid opportunity of scoring, but missed the cross-bar by inches. The Gloucester forwards rushed to near the home goal-line, where all the backs handled. The ball came to Spackman, who was floored by G. Davies just in time. Welcome relief came, when the Cheltenham forwards bustled along well up to mid-field.

Cheltenham were awarded a free-kick, but too far away for effective use. Play hovered in the centre for a time, and then the visiting forwards fed Price with the ball, who with the assistance of James, initiated a nice bout of passing which broke down when Abbey failed to field the ball.

Goodwin infringed the off-side rule and Dr. Steel-Perkins made a good shot for the points, the ball just going wide.

Half-time :

Gloucester .....	Nil
Cheltenham .....	Nil

The visitors had done somewhat better than the home side in the initial half, but there was little to choose between them.

The game was resumed with spirit, and Cheltenham quickly got into the Gloucester 25. Their stay was short, as Price and James opened out for Davies and Spackman to make an incursion into the home territory. A good touch-finder by Goodwin sent the ball back.

In some loose play at midfield G. Davies, the Cheltenham captain, picked up and kicked to the Gloucester line. Goddard followed up smartly, preventing a return kick, himself kicking to the corner flag. The situation was critical for Gloucester, but the forwards were equal to the occasion. Cheltenham maintained the pressure, and took a shot at goal, but could not do the trick. Another "free" let Cheltenham gain a slice of ground, and then Gloucester recovered in a like manner.

Still further penalties were the order, but the exchanges left the position very much as they were, till Roy James landed the ball in touch half a dozen yards from the home line. From a scrum Goddard gave to Davies who handed on to Vaughan to make a nice opening for Clarke. The latter got away, but was overhauled. Vaughan next came into the picture with a strong burst, but the tackling was too good.

In the closing stages, Gloucester found themselves in the home 25 and the situation was remarkably intense when the referee awarded them a free kick. Dr. Perkins' kick failed, and the home forwards transferred play to the other end of the field.

#### RESULT :

Gloucester .....	Nil
Cheltenham .....	Nil

#### REMARKS

There was little good football in the game, each side being too keen to put much science into their play, and preferred to rely on weight rather than skill. In this respect Gloucester held the advantage, their forwards carrying most of the scrums and putting up a vigorous fight in the loose. Cheltenham's defence was sound, and occasionally they beat their opponents in the tight and in the loose.

For Gloucester, Roy James, Abbey and G. Davies were the star performers, and for Cheltenham, G. Davies, Vaughan, and Taylor were the most conspicuous.

UNITED'S EASY WIN  
TOO GOOD FOR CHELTENHAM

Gloucester United fielded a weakened team against Cheltenham United at Kingsholm this afternoon, owing to the calls of the County on the First XV. They fielded six reserves. The visitors also brought a side that was weaker than usual.

Voyce was unlucky to be pulled up for a knock-on when he was well away after intercepting a pass. He soon made an opening for Gloucester to score through Hyett after a clever three-quarter movement on the right. Ash missed with the kick. A minute later Gladwin got over in the corner for Gloucester, and again Ash failed.

Voyce again broke away, and sold a beautiful dummy, but his pass to Orpin was too low. Edwards added Gloucester's third try in the corner, and Ash hit the post with the kick.

Gloucester were superior behind the scrum, the speed of their centres giving them a great advantage. The forwards also showed up better than the Cheltenham men.

Fifield was the next to score by running round from a scrum. The kick failed.

Cheltenham made a valiant attempt to break through on the left, and were awarded a free in the home 25, but Smith failed at goal.

Half-time :  
Gloucester United ..... 4 tries  
Cheltenham United ..... Nil

Early in the second half, Ash hit the cross bar from a free kick taken some distance out. Orpin relieved a dangerous position by running through most of the Cheltenham team, and Gloucester were once more on the attack. They lost Voyce, who was carried from the field injured, but Orpin added another try, which Meadows failed to convert.

Cheltenham made strenuous efforts to reduce the lead, and Surman, the left wing touched down, but Smith did not convert.

Edwards retaliated for Gloucester with another try, which Hyett failed to convert.

Gloucester were still attacking hotly, and it was all Cheltenham could do to keep them out. Shelley kicked a goal from a free in front of the posts.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER UNITED ... 1 goal (p) 6 tries (21 pts.)

CHELTENHAM UNITED ..... 1 try (3 pts.)

JC