

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1933

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

CITY'S BRILLIANT VICTORY AT NEWPORT

FIRST FOR HALF A CENTURY

CLEVER TACTICS PAVE THE WAY

THREE-QUARTERS' FINE PLAY

Fifty years ago Gloucester beat Newport, at Newport, by 1 goal 1 try to nil; this was the City Club's invincible season. In the half-century intervening Gloucester had made many gallant attempts to repeat the triumph, but without success.

This season Newport have experienced a bad time, and the record to date – 13 defeats as against seven wins and three drawn games – is one of the worst in the history of the club.

## GLOUCESTER'S ABSENTEES

On this form Gloucester had great hopes of pulling off a victory, despite the fact that C. C. Tanner, Roy James, and R. McKay were absent from the three-quarter line. Tanner has been ordered to rest for a couple of weeks; James is a "flu" victim, and McKay has not returned from Scotland. The City gave a further trial to Edwards, the Wycliffe Collegian, and Hook came in at wing three-quarter.

Newport have been experimenting with their players all the season, and there were many changes from the side which opposed Gloucester last season. Ralph's unfortunate mishap has been a great blow to the club, and he is not expected to play again this season. His place at outside half was filled by S. Watkins, from one of the Monmouth district clubs.

There were two changes in the Newport team, E. J. Parfitt coming in in the place of Tovey at full-back[*sic*], and E. Davies taking the place of J. R. Evans in the forwards.

The afternoon turned out foggy, and general conditions were uninviting for spectators and in consequence the attendance was very poor, less than 2,000 being present when the game started.

At Newport (train 12.55 p.m., G.W.R.).

### THE TEAMS

GLOUCESTER.

FULL-BACK : D. M. Parker.

THREE-QUARTERS : W. V. Sheppard, F. Edwards, J. C. Brooks, and R. Hook.

HALF-BACKS : D. Meadows and C. Fifield.

FORWARDS : F. Wadley (capt.), A. Carpenter, E. Comley, R. Morris, K. Smith, T. Hiam, P. Hordern and F. Ford.

NEWPORT.

BACK : W. A. Everson.

THREE-QUARTERS : H. W. Jones, K. Squires, G. V. Jones, S. I. Evans.

HALF-BACKS : E. J. Parfitt and S. Watkins.

FORWARDS : E. J. Shiner, G. L. Gwilliam, K. Taylor, W. G. C. Williams, V. J. Law, E. Davies, S. R. Elms and H. A. Shiner.

### THE GAME

The players took the field seven minutes late, and Gloucester, losing the toss, Brooks kicked off. The City opened out from the start, and the ball was sent across to Hook, who was pulled down.

A loose forward rush by Newport looked dangerous, but Brooks came to the rescue and punted to touch. Good kicking improved Gloucester's position, and later Fifield forced a minor with a clever kick over the line.

## A CLEVER INTERCEPTION

Following the drop-out Newport started passing, and Squires punted to the centre where Parfitt followed up and took the ball neatly. He sent past Parker, and the Gloucester line was in danger. The situation was saved close in, and Gloucester quickly worked out to the 25. There Sheppard intercepted a pass cleverly and raced clear, but could not beat Everson.

## GLOUCESTER LIVELY

Gloucester opened out smartly from the loose, and Brooks made a dash through, but his pass inside was knocked-on. The City confined play to the centre, until the Newport forwards broke away with a loose rush, which carried play 25 yards.

Meadows brought relief with a cross-kick, which Everson returned to the goal-mouth where Brooks attempted to make a mark. He was collared, and the ball getting loose Newport tried to rush over, but were frustrated.

## BROOKS IN FORM

Gloucester cleared with passing, Brooks doing fine work. Wadley started a loose dribble which took the ball beyond Everson, but there was an infringement on the 25 line.

Gloucester were working the scrum and heeling well. Play was confined to the Newport half, and Meadows, receiving from Fifield, went through grandly and tried to side-step Everson 20 yards from the line, but he was brought down and his pass went astray.

Gloucester went strongly for a corner try, but they were beaten off, and Newport, with loose footwork and passing, went to the other end. Newport had a spell of attacking and twice looked likely to score, but the defence was too good.

## KEEN PLAY

It was hard keen football especially forward, but the backs were handicapped with the greasy ball and ground. From a long kick to the Gloucester line Hook ran and fielded with a mighty punt which found touch at the centre.

From this point the Gloucester forwards rushed well, Hordern shining, but Everson checked. Immediately Newport worked back, the forwards dribbling well, and Gloucester were placed on the defensive. Hook again came to the rescue with a splendid touch finder, but Newport regained a good attacking position.

An attempt at passing, however, broke down and Gloucester reached the centre. Comley shone with a good dribble only to see him robbed of the ball by Emerson, who dashed through finely.

## CITY GO AHEAD

Fifield put Gloucester well down with a long punt, and Everson had his return charged down. Newport quickly changed the positions and centre play followed. Here Fifield opened out, and Brooks receiving, broke clean through up the centre of the field. SHEPPARD was in attendance, and taking a well-judged pass, raced on to score in a good position. Hook added the goal points.

## DROPPED PASSES

Gloucester had the better of the exchanges on the restart, Meadows and Brooks being seen to advantage. Dropped passes, however, enabled Newport to take advantage and keep play at mid-field. The City continued to do better, heeling and opening out cleverly from the loose.

Sheppard was once given an opening, but after beating his opposite wing and getting well away, he tried a short punt past Everson, but his kick was a poor one, and rebounded off the Newport full-back to touch.

## NEWPORT'S ANXIOUS TIME

Splendid work by Meadows tested Newport, who were kept busy defending. Hook was twice prominent with good tackles, never giving his opposite opponent the slightest chance.

A Gloucester attack was foiled, but the City exerted heavy pressure and Newport were under their goal when the interval arrived.

### HALF-TIME :

Newport ..... Nil

Gloucester ..... 1 goal

Gloucester had excelled in attack, and the pleasing variety of the tactics employed showed them the more effective combination. The City thoroughly deserved their five points lead on the play, for they had shown more enterprise and science.

### DEFINITELY ON TOP

Comley received from the restart, and following up his return collared Parfitt in possession. The City went ahead at once with passing, Meadows finally punting to gain 20 yards. Newport replied with loose footwork, but Fifield picked up the ball at their feet and dashed through into the open. He, however, slipped, and his chance was spoiled.

Newport worked hard in subsequent play, but Gloucester were on top and threw the ball about in good style. The backing was excellent, and nothing was given away.

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## UNITED COMPLETE THE DOUBLE BOUGHTON'S KICKING DECIDES

There were three changes in the Gloucester United team which met Newport United at Kingsholm. Hook and Powell travelled with the First, and Hyett cried off. This brought in Boyce, Etheridge, and Dash. Fowke, the captain, was not playing, and Merrett was in charge of the team. Last year the United beat Newport at Kingsholm by 10 points to nil, but lost by a point in the away fixture.

The teams were : –

Gloucester United. – H. Boughton; T. Boyce, T. Stephens, G. Orpin, and H. Morgan; K. Voyce and E. Chandler; F. G. Merrett, G. Welshman, J. Etheridge, J. Clift, J. Dean, R. Bayliss, S. Mobey, and J. Dash.

Newport United. – H. W. Isaac; R. Plummer, R. T. Ponting, R. Nick-Carter, and J. F. C. Swallow; G. Thompson and J. Dunn; J. R. Wood, W. J. Jackson, S. Danaher, F. C. Emms, A. Hughes, C. G. Morrison, J. Dauncey, and T. Gilpey.

### THE GAME

The start was twenty minutes late, before a good-sized crowd. Voyce made good ground for Gloucester at the start, but a chance was lost when Orpin missed a pass.

Gloucester had the advantage territorially, and opened out in the Newport 25, but were too well marked. Morgan tried to drop a goal, but failed, and later a certain chance was lost when Stephens flung a wild pass.

Gloucester were awarded a free for feet up in the scrum, and Boughton with a beautiful kick from wide out on the 25 line scored a penalty goal. Newport tried to open out, but Boughton was waiting for their punt ahead, and Gloucester were soon back in the visitors' half.

The Newport forwards played strongly in the loose, however, and worked into the home ground. Ponting failed with a free kick at goal, and the next minute the Newport left wing was pulled up for a forward pass with the line at his mercy. The Gloucester forwards led by Bayliss brought relief.

Newport tried to open out, but Boughton stopped them until their forwards dribbled through, and Orpin had to touch down. A long punt, however, relieved the home line, and Boughton's kicking was conspicuous.

Gloucester forwards were struggling hard in the loose, and gradually dribbled to the Newport 25. Boyce was well away on the right when he passed inside, but a Newport man took the ball. Newport were, however, forced to touch down. Play was back in the centre when Jackson scored for Newport from a cross-kick for Ponting to convert.

HALF-TIME:

Gloucester United ..... 1 gl. (p) (3 pts.)

Newport United ..... 1 gl. (5 pts.)

Boughton found touch near the Newport line from a free-kick after the restart, and Stephens tried a drop at goal, but just failed, and Newport came back to half-way.

Gloucester opened out several times, but Orpin was tackled swiftly each time. Chandler saved a dangerous position when he snapped up the ball in front of his own goal and brought relief. Boughton was finding some good touches, but the insides were too slow for Gloucester to get very near scoring.

The Newport three's broke through dangerously on the right, but Dunn was injured and the game was held up. He carried on, and the Gloucester forwards dribbled from their own half to the Newport line. Welshman just missed a try and Gloucester were worrying the visitors' line.

Newport found temporary relief, but Stephens and Morgan with cross-kicking put Gloucester on the attack. An attempt on the right failed to secure a try, but Gloucester were awarded a free. Boughton was unlucky, however, at goal.

Another free-kick for off-side a few seconds later gave him another chance, and this time he scored. Gloucester were on the defensive immediately afterwards, but Boughton was playing a great game. Off-side infringements, however, lost Newport their ground.

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*[The remainder of this report is no longer available; copy having been removed from the original typescript]*

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