KINGSHOLM, GLOUCESTER
SATURDAY, APRIL 3rd, 1954 Kick-off 3-15 p.m.

GLOUCESTER versus NORTHAMPTON

OUR PLAYERS

No. 18. DOUGLAS SIDNEY RICHARD PERKS (three-quarter) was born in Gloucester on December 13th, 1933. This is by way of wishing him “good luck” for he has now gone to the R.A.F. for his National Service. Although he has not made many appearances with the First XV it is hoped his time in the Services will give him more experience to add to the valuable Rugby knowledge he has gained via the Crypt School, Gloucester Boys and for three seasons with the All Blues. He has played regularly for the United this season. A compositor by trade. Weight 12 stone 5 lbs.

NEXT WEEK AT KINGSHOLM:

Thursday—CHELTENHAM (5-45 p.m.)
Saturday—HARLEQUINS (3-15 p.m.)

First XV April 15th—STROUD
APRIL’S FIXTURES
April 17th—BIRKENHEAD PARK
April 19th—BRADFORD
April 28th—NEATH
United XV April 24th—MALVERN
GLOUCESTER
(RED and WHITE)

TO-DAY'S REFEREE
is
Mr. IVOR DAVID, Wales.

First XV Fixtures 1823-54
Played 10, Won 8, Drawn 1, Lost 1, Points for 297, Against 261.

First

SECOND
CHANCE

RED

GREEN

GOLD

GLOUCESTER
HIPPODROME

Robert Micham, Linda Darwell, Jack Poulson

SECOND CHANCE

THE LIMPING MAN

Alan Ladd, Joan Tetzel

HELL BELOW ZERO

STEEL KEY

NORTHAMPTON
(BLACK, GREEN and GOLD)

To-night

Next Week

Lloyd Bridges, Moira Linor

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A TOUGH MONTH

We come to the last month of the season (to include the May 1st fixture at home against Devonport Services), with no fewer than 12 matches to play. We begin to-day against that redoubtable side Northampton, generally regarded as the English side of the year. There is every reason for that, as a glance at their record to date shows:—
Played 31, Won 26, Drawn 1, Lost 4, Points for 405, against 138.
They have therefore more wins, fewer defeats and a better record in points than our own side, which in the past three weeks has slipped, with three defeats in a row. The luck has not always been with us, with county calls and injuries, but that is not put forward as an excuse. To-day, however, we have available the best team at our command and we look forward to an intensely interesting struggle which should give us some worth-while football.

ANOTHER HONOUR

We were all glad to learn that Peter Ford is on the reserve for the England v. France game in Paris next Saturday. He is not travelling but his notification as reserve is some reward to a young player who has come a long way in a short time. We all hope a “cap” will be his reward, next season perhaps.

CHANGES IN RULES

The International Rugby Football Board has announced changes in the laws governing the game, mainly concerned with the scrummage, offside, the penalty kick and touch. These changes come into operation next season and it should be the duty of every player to understand them thoroughly by them—and that applies to spectators, too!
Whatever may be one’s personal opinions—and there has been some disappointment inasmuch as some have felt the changes do not go far enough—these alterations are the law and must be accepted. Here are the alterations affecting the scrummage.

COLLAPSE OF SCRUM.

It will be illegal for any player intentionally to fall or kneel in a scrummage, to cause it to collapse or for either team wilfully to delay the formation of a scrummage. Every scrummage shall be formed as nearly as practicable to the place of infringement and not necessarily ten yards from the touch line.

It is made illegal for a front row to form down some way from its opponents and rush against them. The ball must be put in without delay as soon as the two front rows, each consisting of three men, have closed together.

PUTTING THE BALL IN.

The player putting in the ball shall stand one yard from the scrummage and midway between the two front rows, so that the ball first touches the ground immediately beyond the nearer second foot.

The ball shall be put into the scrummage again if it enters and comes out at either end of the tunnel or if, on its way out, it passes between the first and second feet of either front row.

A player is not in the scrummage unless he is binding with either arm a player of his own team in the scrummage. (To be continued)