

The Citizen

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RUGBY

RECORD HARD TO BEAT

MR. A. HUDSON'S FINE ACHIEVEMENTS

Of the many leading personalities in Rugby Union football in Gloucester Mr. Arthur Hudson, the popular Secretary-Manager of the club holds a record of achievements hard to beat (writes "W.B.").

As a player, Mr. Hudson enjoyed a brilliant career, and established a reputation for try-getting which has not been approached in the history of the City Club.

For Gloucester alone he recorded 236 tries*, and in addition scored 10 tries for England, 13 for Gloucestershire, and 21 for the Royal Naval Depot team (Devonport) when serving with the R.N. in the Great War, making a grand aggregate of 280. His best season was in 1905-6 when he obtained 41 tries - another club record.

The nearest approach to Hudson's aggregate for Gloucester is the 141 tries* standing to the credit of C. ("Whacker") Smith, a contemporary of the old international.

Mr. Hudson had the distinction of captaining the Gloucester team for five seasons, was "capped" eight times for England, and made 28 appearances for Gloucestershire.

In his last playing season (1919-20) he led Gloucestershire to victory over Yorkshire, at Bradford, by 27pts. to 3 in the final of the County Championship. It was in this match he met with a serious injury to his shoulder which forced his retirement from the game.

Elected secretary of the Gloucester Club the following season he has held the appointment ever since, and has proved as big a success from the business side as on the playing side. Altogether Mr. Hudson has now completed 38 years active connection with the City Club - he joined the premier team in season 1902-3 - a record of service which has helped appreciably in keeping Gloucester in the forefront of Rugby Union organisations in the country.

** [Records in fact show that Arthur Hudson scored 235 vice 236 tries, and Whacker Smith scored 142 vice 141 tries.]*