

# *The Citizen*

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1942

## FOOTBALL

### **PARKER PLAYS FOR ENGLAND.**

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#### **LAST MINUTE CHANGE.**

Graham Parker, the Gloucester and England full-back, played for England after all against Wales in the Services International at Kingsholm this afternoon.

R. Rankin, the Australian bomber pilot, had to cry off at the last moment, and the Gloucester man was brought into his place at full-back.

One change, announced last night, was made in the Welsh side, Leslie Thomas, of the Army, had a broken collar-bone, and V. J. Law, of Newport, was brought in to take his place in the pack.

Crowds began to collect three hours before the match was due to begin, and yesterday it was announced that all the reserved seats had been sold. An hour before the start the ground was filling up comfortably.

In the City something of the old pre-war football spirit was recaptured with the numbers of Rugby fans wearing mostly the red Welsh favours, which were being sold in the streets. On the ground itself the Welsh supporters as usual were most conspicuous with their splashes of red in either scarf or beret. The traditional attempts were made to fasten leeks to the goalposts, but were frustrated by the police.

## Visit of Mr. W. W. Wakefield

As a sort of curtain-raiser to the match there was an inspection of the Gloucester squadron of the Air Training Corps by Mr. W. W. Wakefield, M.P., Director of the Air Training Corps.

The cadets made a splendid spectacle as they marched on to the field to the music of the I.T.C. band. There were about 230 cadets in the parade, the 186 Squadron (Crypt School), in the charge of Flight-Lieutenant Morgan Brown and the 181 Squadron (Sir Thomas Rich's School) under Flight Lieut. W. J. Veale. When the squadrons had taken their places and lined up for inspection Mr. Wakefield was introduced to the Commanding Officers by Ald. S. J. Gillett.

He immediately began his inspection, stopping to speak to several of the cadets. The smallest lad in the parade came in for a special word and applause from the crowd.

Meanwhile, the stands were filling up, but there was plenty of room at the Dean's Walk and Worcester-street ends. It was expected that the crowd would fall short of Gloucester's last International crowd of 16,000.

The referee for the match was Mr. F. Mansell, of Gloucester, and the touch judges were Capt. H. A. Heigh-Smith (R.U. Committee) and Lieut. V. G. J. Jenkins (Oxford University and Wales).

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Stop Press:

SERVICES INTERNATIONAL

Half-time: England 1 try, 3 points; Wales 1 goal (p), 3 points.

Risman scored penalty goal for Wales and Reynolds got unconverted try for England.

Result: England 1 try (3 pts); Wales 1 goal (p), 2 tries (9 points).

Edwards and Foster scored unconverted tries for Wales in the second half.