

# GLOUCESTER BOYS V. BRISTOL BOYS.

## The Ball that Wouldn't-But Did.

BY "TEEK."

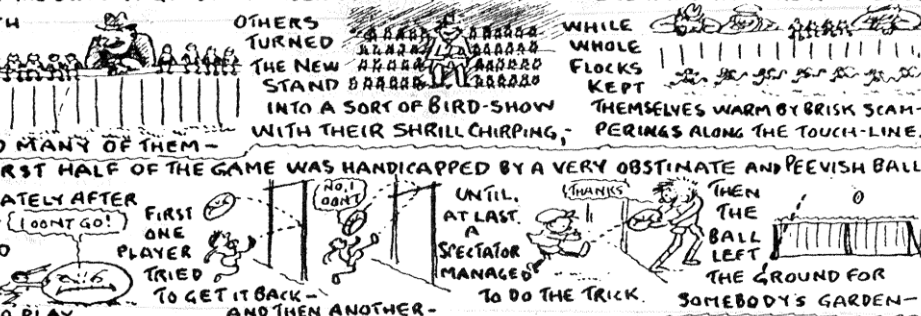
BEFORE THE START A GOODLY NUMBER OF MINIATURE SUPPORTERS HAD TAKEN THEIR PLACES. A PERCH ON THE FENCE SUITED A GOOD MANY OF THEM - OTHERS TURNED THE NEW STAND INTO A SORT OF BIRD-SHOW WITH THEIR SHRILL CHIRPING; WHILE WHOLE FLOCKS KEPT THEMSELVES WARM BY BRISK SCAMPINGS ALONG THE TOUCH-LINE.

THE FIRST HALF OF THE GAME WAS HANDICAPPED BY A VERY OBSTINATE AND PEEVISH BALL. IMMEDIATELY AFTER BRISTOL HAD SCORED IT REFUSED TO GO BACK INTO PLAY. FIRST ONE PLAYER TRIED TO GET IT BACK - AND THEN ANOTHER - UNTIL AT LAST A SPECTATOR MANAGES TO DO THE TRICK. THEN THE BALL LEFT THE GROUND FOR SOMEBODY'S GARDEN -

AND M<sup>S</sup> SOMEBODY HAD TO CHUCK IT BACK AGAIN. EVEN THEN IT WOULDN'T JOIN THE PLAY UNTIL IT HAD TAPPED TWO SPECTATORS ON THE NAPPERS. ITS NEXT FOOLS TRICK WAS TO SPOIL A FREE KICK FOR GLOSTER BY BUMPING THE CRUMPET OF A BRISTOL FORWARD. STILL DETERMINED TO KEEP OUT OF THE GAME IT THEN ASSAULTED THE CONSTABLE ON DUTY.


THE CONSTABLE, HOWEVER, WAS A MAN OF METTLE AND AT ONCE CLOSED WITH THE BALL, GAVE IT A VERY SEVERE WARNING - AND RETURNED IT, IN A SUB-DUED FRAME OF MIND, TO THE FIELD. THUS IT WAS THAT BRISTOL WERE ABLE TO MAKE THEIR SECOND SCORE.

WITH A WELL-BEHAVED BALL, AND THE SCORE 8 TO NIL AGAINST THEM, GLOUCESTER SET OUT IN THE SECOND HALF FULLY DETERMINED TO RETRIEVE THE POSITION,




AND BY RUSHING PAST THEIR BURLY OPPONENTS LIKE A PACK OF VERY PINK AND LIVELY SHRIMPS, THEY SUCCEEDED IN MAKING A DRAW OF A SPLENDID GAME.

THE BRISTOL FULL-BACK WHO LOOKED THE COLDEST MORTAL EVER SEEN AT KINGSHOLM.



TWO OUTSTANDING FIGURES IN THIS GAME DESERVE TO BE RECORDED.



THE GLOSTER SCRUM-HALF.

WHO WAS ALMOST TOO SMALL TO PUT A NUMBER ON.

TEEK 1929