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Right Centre
(12) L. Moores

'PHONE: BATH 2057.

Full Back

Left Centre

Left Wing
(14) \* C. Porter

Stand Off Half (10) G. Lee

(9) M. Spark Scrum Half

(5) W. Burcombe

(6) \* T. Lewis

(4) \* L. Harter

(7) \* G. Reid (Capt.)

(8) A. Todd

(I) \* W Barrow

(2) P. Boltwood

Forwards

(3) J. Messer

Referee: Mr. A. Hooper, Som. R. U.

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(15) C. Price

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(11) \* T. Rose

(7) G. Bird Scrum Half

(12) F. Merrett

Left Wing
(5) K. Dyer

Left Centre (4) G. Davis Right Centre
(3) \* G. Cullimore

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(2) D. Pink (Capt.)

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The Men of Stroud.

We are pleased to have Stroud as our Visitors today, knowing that they will give us a good hard game and being pretty well certain there will not be a lot in it at the end. Our visitors have done slightly better than we have this season. They have won 5 games out of 8 scoring 101 pts. against 58. As is well known we have won only 4 out of 10 and our pts. are badly on the wrong side 97 for and 138 against. Neither side has drawn a game. We really owe Stroud a game for last season, the weather prevented our visiting them on 1st February. The corresponding game here the visitors won by 10 pts. to 8 on 9th November. Somerset were playing Gloucestershire on that day and it may be remembered that neither Porter nor Hicks could play through injuries. It was the custom in pre-war days to arrange fixtures with weak sides when Somersct were playing. This has not been done this season. Stroud will probably show us that.

Home or Away?

It has been suggested that when Somerset are playing it would be better if Bath were playing away. Perhaps there is something to be said in favour of this, But in prewar days it was always more difficult to get a good team to go away - except for some games - than it was to play at home and with the county men missing this would have been more so. Besides, we must not loose any of our reputation among the first class clubs we play. It would be folly to send sides away weakened by the absence of our county men. This perhaps does not apply as much now as it did in pre-war days when we had so many county men. There were very few Bath men left when Somerset won the championship last. Today excepting O'Shaughnessy we have only 2 at Exeter.

Our United. Although defeated last week 10-13 by the B.A.C. at Southmead, Bristol, our United put up a great show. The ground was the hardest we have had to contend with this season and stoppages through this were caused at very frequent intervals. Bath lost Hemmings in the first 5 minutes. The ambulance took him to Bristol Infirmary where he remained until 7 oclock with severely damaged muscles. Playing up the slope the United could not hold the Aeroplane people who put on their 13 pts. in the first half and it certainly looked as if the United were in for a good beating. The Bristolians are a good side - probably the best junior side in Bristol. Anyhow, they have defeated Bristol United and run Weston-super-Mare to a couple of points. The second half however was quite a different story. The United had more of the game than their opponents had of the first and it was the general opinion among the home supporters that Bath should have won. The forwards won the scrums and were excellent in the loose. The backs were continually in motion and scored two excellent tries by Moores and Weynon the former converting both. It was just sheer bad luck that they did not get another 2 or 3 tries. Unfortunately it will be some 5 weeks before we shall see the United on the Rec. but if they can fight back as they did on Saturday, they are worth going further than to Bristol to watch.

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