

# SPORTS

Page 6 The Guardian, Thursday, June 9, 1955

## Blake Promises Fighting Canadiens Hockey Team

By W. R. WHEATLEY  
Canadian Press Staff Writer  
MONTREAL (CP) — Hector (Toe) Blake Wednesday signed a one-year contract to coach Montreal Canadiens and promised that his old National Hockey League club will continue as a colorful fighting team.

The man who toiled with Canadiens for virtually 12 full seasons and became one of the greatest left-wingers in the game succeeds veteran Dick Irvin. Blake played under Irvin for eight seasons and reclaimed him as the greatest coach he has known. Irvin, now 42 and 20 years older than Blake, moves on to Chicago Black Hawks under a two-year contract.

When asked the duration of the contract, managing director Frank Selke grinned and said: "One year, but it will be for a lifetime." Blake's salary was not announced.

### STUDIES CLUB ROSTER

After the meeting broke up Blake said his first job will be to "study the roster of the club." He gave no indication of any possible deals in respect.

Selke said he has known Blake since Toe was 18 and had tried to get him—while Selke was in Toronto—for Toronto Marlboro juniors. "But it's a good thing we didn't because he would have wound up with Toronto Leafs."

### FILLING BIG SHOES

"I am stepping into a big pair of shoes in taking over from Dick Irvin," said Blake. "I have always considered him the best in the league. With the help of Mr. Selke

and Ken Reardon and the players we will continue to keep Canadiens' hockey name on top. The team won't let the fans down."

"I am not going to promise a Stanley Cup but we will continue as a great fighting club."

Blake was born in Victoria Mines, Ont., Aug. 12, 1912. He played junior hockey with Sudbury and senior hockey with Hamilton Tigers. He turned professional with Montreal Maroons in 1934-35, playing three games. He went to Providence of the Canadian-American League in 1935-36 and was sold to Canadiens later that season.

He remained with Canadiens until Jan. 10, 1948, when he suffered a double fracture at the joint of the right ankle and leg.

### LED NHL SCORERS

Since the end of his playing career in 1948, Blake has coached the Houston "Texas" Huskies of the U. S. Hockey League, the Buffalo Bisons of the American Hockey League, and the Valleyfield Braves of the Quebec Senior Hockey League.

In the NHL, Blake won the Hart trophy in 1938-39 as the most valuable player and the Lady Byng trophy in 1945-46 as the player best combining ability and gentlemanlike conduct.

He led the NHL in scoring in the 1938-39 season.

Blake was among the top 10 NHL scorers six times. His lifetime NHL record is 235 goals and 292 assists for 527 points. In playoffs he scored 25 goals and 37 assists.

## Dairy Still Undeclared, Keefe Drug Edges Navy

Sunshine Island Dairy remains the only undeclared team in the Charlotteville Softball League following their 13-4 win over the previously undeclared Abbies last night at the Parkdale diamond.

In another League game Keefe Drug staged a six-run outburst in the top of the seventh inning to down Navy 10-8.

Art Ballen pitched a seven-hitter for the Dairy and won his second game in as many starts. Elmer Mahar and Frank Dunn handled the mound duties for the Abbies. Abbie first baseman Wilf Shepherd hit the only home run of the game, while George Bradley led the Dairy attack with two hits and two walks in four trips to the plate.

In the Navy-Keefe Drug game some concentrated hitting by Keefe Drug combined with some loose fielding on the part of the Navy team gave the Drugists their margin of victory. Wally Constable pitched an effective nine-hitter for Keefe Drug while Dick Doyle was tagged for eight hits in a losing cause. Jimmy Bradley and Maurice Williams of Navy led all hitters with three hits in five trips.

**Lineups:**  
Dairy—Ward, Bradley, Hughes, Arsenault, Kelly, Ballen, MacIntyre, Wright, A. Carroll.  
Abbies—P. Shepherd, MacDonald, Pineau, W. Shepherd, Dunn, Blawie, W. Carroll, Smith, Umpire: Brian Lewis.  
Navy—Arsenault, Boulton, Mac

## Charles Wins By Decision

CINCINNATI (AP) — Ezzard Charles of Cincinnati, staying in close all the way, punched out an unanimous 10-round decision Wednesday night over Johnny Holman of Chicago.

It was Holman's long right-hand shot that gave him a technical knockout over Charles, former world's heavyweight champion, in the ninth round of a bout in April in Miami.

Charles weighed 195½ to 202 for Holman.

# Evers' Homer Sparks Baltimore 3-2 Win Over Chicago: Giants Edge Braves 5-4

By The Canadian Press  
Hoot Evers' homer with none aboard gave Baltimore Orioles a 3-2 victory over the White Sox in an American League game at Chicago Wednesday, although the Orioles only managed four hits.

Don Johnson turned in a fine relief pitching job for Baltimore, taking over from starter Harry Byrd in the third. Johnson, although yielding eight hits, scored his first victory against two defeats.

Baltimore's manager Paul Richards and pitcher Saul Rogovin were chased by plate umpire Bill McKinley for protesting strike calls in the fifth inning.

New York Giants edged Milwaukee Braves 5-4 at the Polo Grounds in the only National League day game. Bobby Hofman's clutch pinch single in the 10th inning scored Alvin Dark to wrap up the verdict.

An odd misplay by rookie first baseman Gail Harris, brought up from Minneapolis last week, prevented the Giant's from winning in regulation time. Harris, whose two-run homer in the sixth had put New York in front, dropped the ball with the bases loaded in the ninth to fluff what should have been an easy third out. The error let one run home and a subsequent walk forced in the tying run. Southpaw Windy McCall was the winner.

Rain washed out one National League night game. St. Louis at Philadelphia. Two others were scheduled.

Three night games were on tap in the American League.

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## Basilio 17-10 Favorite Over De Marco Tonight

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Challenger Carmen Basilio used fighting words to reply to predictions by Tony De Marco's handlers that the champion would keep his title by a knockout Friday.

"Let him come in and try it," Carmen commented Wednesday. "Then he'll leave himself wide open."

Neither Basilio nor De Marco are making any predictions themselves. Fighters who figure their fists will do the talking Friday night.

Both closed out their heavy training Tuesday. Carmen, who boxed 200 rounds in getting ready for the championship, looks fit and fast.

De Marco also was down to the mere limbering up stage after sparring a total of 51 rounds at his training camp at Monticello.

## City Jr. League Softball Games

The Loafers defeated the Hawks 15-14 and the Bowers Bombers edged the Hawks 10-9 in City Junior League softball games yesterday.

Steele was the winning pitcher for the Loafers and McCabe the loser. George Whitlock hit a home run while Lou Curley and Jimmy Dully hit five for five.

Mahar picked up the win for the Bombers and Gillis suffered the loss in the Bombers-Hawks contest.

"Lifetime" contracts, as he was promised by Selke yesterday have a way of being forgotten after a prolonged losing streak.

Irvin, on the other hand, is taking over a losing team and the Hawks can hardly do any worse under him than they have in the past. Also he has been given a two year contract and in that time he might make a start on improving Chicago's unflattering farm system. Not that we want to view Irvin's chances of surviving the Windy City's gales which have blown a number of ambitious Canadians across Lake Michigan back into Canada, with a pessimistic eye. The former Montreal coach is a wise old hockey owl and in his thirteen years with Canadiens has had the perennial contender for Montreal's frantic French following.

Eddy Lund, one of the city's best ball players recently finished his fourth year at Dalhousie University and has entered Fredericton hospital where he will complete his internship for his degree as Doctor of Medicine. Eddy has a host of friends in this city who wish him the best in his chosen field of study and he will be sorely missed by the Abbie's baseball team, who have benefited tremendously from his prodigious home run clouts in the past years.

Yesterday's announcement by Frank Selke that Hector "Toe" Blake will take over from Dick Irvin as coach of the Montreal Canadiens was nothing more than a minor surprise to Montreal's hockey followers. Blake has appeared to have had the inside track on the coveted post since the "Gray Fox" made known his acceptance of the Chicago offer some weeks ago.

In taking over this coaching job the "Old Lampighter" will have his work cut out for him. He is succeeding a highly successful coach and if he is to hold on to his job will have to do at least as well with this talented team as did Irvin, for unwritten

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## Halifax Ball League To Open

HALIFAX (CP) — The Halifax and District Senior Baseball League, studded with imports from the United States and the Maritimes, opens Friday.

Stellarton Albions, with practically a new team, travel to Liverpool to take on the Larrupers in the opening tussle.

Truro Bearcats, Halifax Capitals, Dartmouth Arrows and Kentville Wildcats swing into action later.

## Softball Practice

Barrie's Lions will hold a practice on Parkdale diamond tonight at 6:45. All players requested to attend.

## Girls Softball

There will be a softball practice on the Hospital Field Diamond for all interested girls in the City this evening at six o'clock. As many as possible are requested to attend.

## Basketball Coach Seeks \$17,572 Pay

NEW YORK (AP) — Basketball coach Nat Holman has filed a

## Perfect Score Posted At Opening Gun-Club Shoot

PERFECT SCORE ... ited States. Following are the top six scores posted at last evening's shoot.

Bob Hyndman, veteran Charlottetown skeet shooter posted a perfect "25 straight" at the opening shoot of the Charlottetown gun club held at Winsloe last evening.

About 20 gunners were on hand to show their wares and some very fine scores were posted. All were high in praise of the new shooting fields and found them rounding into excellent shape.

Many new members have joined the club and many more are expected to join before the big Centennial shoot being held here on August 13th, which is expected to attract gunners from Central Canada and the eastern United States.

The state commissioner of education ordered his reinstatement in August, 1954, with pay. He had been suspended Nov. 18, 1952, without pay.

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Leaves For England And Channel Swim  
Marilyn Bell (left), first to swim across Lake Ontario, and Joan Cook, her girl friend, cross their fingers before leaving Toronto for England. Marilyn will try to swim across the English Channel some time in July or August. (CP Photo)

## In This Corner

If Charlottetown's baseball men can gain the favor of the weatherman there is a chance that the city baseball league will get underway over the coming week-end. There will be three teams in the league this year, and prospects for a highly interesting summer's baseball are very bright. Charlie Ryan, Jimmy "Piddler" MacDonald and Tom MacFarlane are handling the coaching chores and have reported that there have been a large number of players turning out for each practice and that interest in the league is higher than it has been for the past couple of years.

Interest in what has been lacking both from the player standpoint and more noticeably in the city fans, who at one time used to turn out 3000 strong for a Sunday afternoon ball game. The games last year that drew more than 1000 spectators were few and far between. It is difficult to point an accusing finger at the cause, certainly the brand of baseball being played is just as good, if not better than that of a few years ago. One theory could be that Charlottetown's citizens are more mobile than they were in the forties and would rather spend a Sunday afternoon broiling at the beaches than in the bleachers at Memorial field.

The 6-4 right-hander, who had only a 9-8 record after returning from service last season, pitched the perfect ball over the last five innings. He didn't give up a walk all night, struck out seven and retired the last 16 men he faced.

It was Newcombe all the way. The big guy, who bats left handed, smacked a single and a double, figuring in two of the Brooks' runs, as the Dodgers sent Gerry Staley

Baseball Practice  
A baseball practice match will be held this evening on Memorial Field at 5:45 for Jimmy MacDonald's, Charlie Ryan's and Tom MacFarlane's teams. All registered players please be present.

Dodgers Release Pitcher Lasorda  
BROOKLYN (AP) — The Brooklyn baseball club Wednesday released pitcher Tom Lasorda outright to Montreal Royals of the International League and restored Koufax to the active list. Koufax had been on the disabled list with a sore arm.

The Dodgers said these moves placed the team active roster at 25 players.

Babe Ruth hadn't won or lost a game for the team this season. He is a 29-year-old lefthander who had a 14-5 mark at Montreal last year.

Havana 120 210 000—6 8 0  
MacKinson, Ludwig (5), Beard (8) and Rand; Ladera, Sanchez (1) and Noble.

Montreal 100 000 000—1 5 0  
Columbus 000 000 011—2 7 3  
Cox and Bucha; Kume, Haag (9) and Roarke, Lakeman (8). W—Haag.

First Toronto 100 000 0—1 6 0  
Richmond 000 000—0 1 1  
Crimian and Berberet; Habe, nicht, Heintzelman (7) and Watlington. L—Habeneicht. HR: Tor-Babe.

Second Toronto 002 000 000—2 6 1  
Richmond 200 001 00x—3 4 1  
K. Johnson and Griffin; Starr, Voiselle (8) and St. Claire.

First Buffalo 003 000 0—3 5 0  
Syracuse 003 110 x—5 6 0  
Hahn, Erickson (4) and Yewic; Owens and Eraut. L—Hahn. HRs: Buf—Samford. Syr — Bowman, Mielotta.

Second Buffalo 000 105 000—6 7 1  
Syracuse 000 020—2 7 2  
Stump and Strull; Farrell, Lovenguth (6) and Eraut.

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## Starters With Positions For SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1955

STARTING TIME 9 P. M. (D.T.)

No. 1 Classified Trot—2 Dashes at \$175.00 each  
1—Peggy Ellis; 2—Muriel E.; 3—Mildale; 4—Real Fingo; 5—Pet Hanover; 6—Guy Harvester; 7—Rajah Hanover; 8—Lusticia. Also eligible: Bonnie Dale.

No. 2 Classified Pace—2 Dashes at \$300.00 each  
1—My Darling; 2—Moriell Woody; 3—Gahagan; 4—Prudence Hy; 5—Impact; 6—Sir Joseph.

No. 3 Classified Pace—2 Dashes at \$175.00 each  
1—Billy McVey; 2—Keppoch Playgirl; 3—Marion E.; 4—Money Royal; 5—Miss Donna Mae.

No. 4 Classified Pace—2 Dashes at \$150.00 each  
1—Sister Verna Hoo; 2—Miss Commando; 3—Kitty McKay; 4—Eva Budlong; 5—Russell Clegg; 6—Glenda Mae; 7—Silk Hal.

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