

SPORTS FRONT

By PIUS CALLAGHAN

WHEN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE got underway back on October 7, the general opinion was that the league would be divided into two divisions—Montreal Canadiens and the rest of the pack. Everybody except Toe Blake and his Stanley Cup champions hoped that this wouldn't be so but they felt they were hoping against hope.

Interviewed between periods of a Saturday night game recently, president Clarence Campbell admitted this opinion was general before the season started. Mr. Campbell hastened to add that the part of the Canadiens off by themselves had so far proved to be correct but the others in the league had divided themselves into two more groups instead of all five battling for the other three remaining playoff positions. Chicago Black Hawks and New York Rangers were floundering all over the place showing signs of going nowhere but down in the league standings.

NATURALLY MR. CAMPBELL regretted this course of events. He had high hopes of these five hockey clubs waging a stern battle for second, third and fourth spots right through until closing night, Sunday March 20. But here was Toronto, Detroit and Boston running away by themselves and leaving the poor Black Hawks and Rangers to stage a private feud for fifth and sixth places. To all appearances, it looked as though the Chicago and New York teams had given up the playoff fight and were content to engage in their own private cellar battle.

The National Hockey League president was annoyed at what was happening but he was unable to do anything about it. The Black Hawks, especially, had been picked by many to finish as runners-up to the Canadiens and here they were battling New York Rangers for the league basement.

It was indeed a sorry situation.

TODAY CLARENCE CAMPBELL, the New York Rangers and the Chicago Black Hawks are a much happier trio. The reason for the smiles is the great weekend that both Rangers and Black Hawks enjoyed. It was one of those things that Rangers and Hawks were unable to come up with at any other time this season. But these two nights, Saturday and Sunday, set things straightened out again and now all teams are in the fight for the playoff positions.

BOSTON BRUINS still hold down fourth place in the standings with 25 points as against 20 for New York and 19 for Chicago. That's not a very great spread and it's not even as big as it looks. Boston has played 30 games, New York and Chicago only 28. If the fifth and sixth place clubs could get those games into the win column, then there would really be a race going for that last playoff spot.

The Black Hawks have a chance to whittle down the margin this Wednesday night when they entertain the men of Mill Schmidt. A win for Rudy Pilous and company would move the Hawks into fifth place, only four points behind and two games in hand. Rangers would be five points back but they would have three games more left to play than the Bruins.

So all the worry about two teams falling to make a fight for a playoff position appears to be over. These Rangers and Hawks have suddenly caught fire and they are in the mood for causing trouble. The Rangers did the league the greatest service by beating the Bruins on Saturday and Sunday nights, thus making the race for fourth something to really watch.

THE HAWKS grabbed three out of a possible four points by trouncing Maple Leafs at Toronto and then holding the Canadiens to a 4-4 tie at Chicago.

This meant that over the weekend the Toronto club extended its losing streak to four—they were beaten again Sunday night by Detroit Red Wings. For a club that was showing signs of greatness, the Leafs' story is a sad tale for Toronto fans over the past week. It started with a 6-0 blanking by the Rangers in New York on Sunday December 6, then came a 6-3 beating by the Bruins on Thursday the 10th, another setback by the Hawks on the 12th and a 4-2 loss to Red Wings on Sunday the 15th. Johnny Bower was having a great year for himself in the Toronto cage until this losing streak started. In those four games the Leafs were scored upon 20 times and away went Johnny's fine average.

Toronto's chances of breaking its slump at four are not too rosy.

They move into Montreal Thursday night for a game with the Canadiens, the team that a certain sportswriter we know claims can win anytime it wants to win. Well, Thursday night will surely be one that the Blakemen will want to grab. The folks around Montreal are getting a bit impatient with the antics of the Canadiens who certainly have not looked like world beaters in their last half dozen contests. In these six games they failed to register a single victory and have managed only three ties during that time. That means they played these six games at a dismal .500 clip, garnering only three points out of a possible 12.

That's hardly the type of a show that will terrify the other five teams in the National Hockey League.

AND NOW we must openly admit these Detroit Red Wings are the team that has surely stolen the spotlight from the rest of the pack. For a time, we along with many others, were certain their doings were a mere flash in the pan. But with more than two months of play behind us, we must confess it has been a very long flash.

Sid Abel has his boys doing everything right and they have taken a definite delight in playing their best hockey against the Canadiens. Terry Sawchuk is performing brilliantly for them and his displays have given the rest of the club real inspiration to do the things they are doing. Right now you can't help but consider this Detroit club a great one. They can't do what they are doing by mere chance. These Wings are going great guns both ways and their type of hustle has been firmly entrenched in second place. Perhaps they have first place ambitions. They may not know that the team ahead of them has no license to be beaten. They may not have read the words of the columnist in the Evening Patriot who tells all the Canadians can win whenever they want to win.

At any rate, the Wings look like a right smart hockey club and they are giving every indication of being a tough outfit to handle. These Canadiens haven't scared the Abelmens this season so far and they are becoming convinced that they are not going to scare at all.

Penguin Winger Leading Parade

Penguins' slick rightwinger, Apps Arsenault, is out in front in the Island Senior Hockey League scoring race according to figures compiled by the Guardian sports department.

Arsenault had a great week for himself eight goals and assisting on three others. This gave him a total production of fourteen to go along with his twelve assists for a twenty-six point total.

Captain Angus Carroll of Parkdale Royals was runner-up to Arsenault with a 23-point total, made up of 11 goals and 12 assists. That was one better than centre Jack Kane of the Penguins who had 8 goals and 14 assists.

Penguins' losses to Summerside's P.E.I. Aces on Thursday and Friday nights dropped the Perfectionists into second place behind Parkdale Royals who had won 4 lost 2 tied 1 for a .643 percentage. Penguins' record was 5 wins and 3 losses, good for a .625 mark. Aces' two victories boosted them up to 4.44 with 3 wins, 4 losses and 2 ties.

Penguins' netminder had a slight edge in the goaltending department. Thane Doyle had 42 goals scored on him in 8 games for a .525 average. Royals' Butch Ward was next with a 5.56 average, 30 goals in 7 games. Aces' Thane Mann was scored on 54 times in 9 games for an average of 6 goals per game.

All figures were exclusive of last night's Royal-Aces game in Summerside.



APPS ARSENAULT

Here are some of the other top point-getters.

	G	A	Pts
Coke Grady (A)	9	12	21
Burke (R)	9	10	19
Whitlock (R)	6	11	17
Pineau (P)	8	6	14
U. Gallant (A)	7	7	14
V. Harris (A)	3	10	13
B. Grady (A)	7	6	13
Carver (R)	5	8	13
Dunn (R)	5	7	12

ARAB STATE

Arabs predominate among the 4,000,000 population of Tunisia, an independent republic since 1956.



Sylvia Wene, of Philadelphia, holds up bowling ball displaying the perfect game numerals which she rolled in the annual World Invitational Bowling Tournament. Miss Wene, 30-year-old onetime delicatessen clerk, is the first woman to bowl a perfect 300 game in national match game competition. (AP Wirephoto)

SEVEN GIANTS HEAD LIST

Eastern All Star Squad Announced For Pro Bowl

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Two veteran pro quarterbacks, Norm Van Brocklin of Philadelphia and Bobby Layne of Pittsburgh, will lead the eastern conference All Stars into the Pro Bowl Jan. 17.

They and 30 other gridderes were chosen by eastern coaches of the National Football League for the 10th annual clash in Los Angeles.

The western conference team will be announced later.

Van Brocklin, appearing in his eighth Pro-Bowl next month, led the east to a 28-21 victory in the 1952 contest.

SEVEN GIANTS PICKED

The eastern champion New York Giants head the list with seven players. Six Cleveland Browns, topped by Lou Groza going into his ninth all star game, made the squad. Pittsburgh also placed six.

Layne and Van Brocklin edged out New York's Charley Conerly in balloting for the two quarterback spots.

East coach Buck Shaw of Philadelphia will be given one bonus player selection. His team now includes:

OFFENCE

Eds—Bill Anderson, Washington Redskins; Bob Schnelker, Giants; Jimmy Orr, Pittsburgh Steelers.

Tackles — Roosevelt Brown, Giants; Ken Panfil, Chicago Cardinals; Lou Groza, Browns.

Guards — Jim Ray Smith, Browns; John Nisby, Steelers.

Centers — Jim Schrader, Redskins; Art Hunter, Browns.

Quarterbacks — Norm Van Brocklin, Eagles; Bobby Layne, Steelers.

Halfbacks — Frank Gifford, Giants; Tommy McDonald, Bill

Bert Olmstead Is Hospitalized

TORONTO (CP) — Bert Olmstead, veteran left winger with Toronto Maple Leafs of the National Hockey League, will be in hospital for three to four weeks, manager-coach George (Punch) Imlach said Monday.

The 33-year-old Olmstead suffered strained left knee ligaments in a second-period collision during Sunday night's game with the Red Wings in Detroit which the Leafs lost 4-2.

Curling Draw

The following is the curling draw for Tuesday night at the Charlottetown club: 7 P. M.

Ice 1 — Open.

Ice 2 — H. R. Carruthers, L. Phillips, R. Chambers, T. Walker, vs. G. Bennett, D. Wonnacott, C. Asprey, Dr. Roberts.

Ice 3 — E. MacLeod, D. Walker, J. S. Taylor, S. Moore, vs. Had MacInnes, J. Gorrell, L. MacPhail, Ian MacLeod.

Ice 4 — Winner (Cameron, Saunders) vs. winner (Dobson, Burnett).

Ice 5 — winner (Love, Tanton) vs. winner (G. Stewart, Dr. Galant).

8:30 P. M.

Ice 1 — Open.

Ice 2 — Winner (A. MacDonald, Likely) vs. winner (Burden, Acorn).

Ice 3 — winner (Prowse, Flinn) vs. winner (J.S. MacDonald, Jones).

Ice 4 — Open.

Ice 5 — Open.

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Calgary Stamps Announce 5-Player Deal With Argos

CALGARY (CP) — Calgary Stampede of the Western Interprovincial Football Union Monday announced a five-player trade which sends quarterback Nobby Wirkowski to Toronto Argonauts of the Big Four.

Key player the Stampede get in return is Canadian quarterback Gerry Doucette, a six-year veteran with Argos. Also coming to Calgary, are defensive halfback Clare Exelby and defensive end Morgan Clark, both Canadians.

Going to Toronto along with Wirkowski is Canadian middle guard Walter Radzick, rookie of the year in the WIFU in 1952.

The trade strengthens speculation that Wirkowski is slated for the position of backfield coach with Argos. He has been mentioned as a candidate since Lou Agase took over as head coach earlier this month and announced he was looking for an assistant with experience in the Canadian game.

NOT STRANGERS Neither Wirkowski nor Radzick are strangers to Toronto. Wirkowski, born in the United States but now a Canadian, quarterbacked Argos when they last won the Grey Cup in 1952. Since then he has played with Hamilton Tiger-Cats of the Big Four and has spent the last three years with Calgary.

Radzick formerly played for the University of Toronto and Toronto Balmy Beach of the Ontario Rugby Football Union. A standout in 1952, he saw little action this year after reporting pounds overweight.

Doucette at various times during the last six years has been Argos' first-string quarterback—usually for brief periods after U.S. quarterbacks failed to live up to expectations.

Exelby, also an offensive flanker, has played two years with Argos. Clark comes to Calgary after one season in Toronto. He previously played for Sarnia Golden Bears of the ORFU and University of Western Ontario Mustangs.

Hogan's P.E.I. Aces Battle Royals To 4-4 Deadlock

SUMMERSIDE — The P.E.I. Aces and the Parkdale Royals fought to another 4-4 deadlock at Civic Stadium in Summerside last night before a small, pre-Christmas crowd of fans. The Aces drew first blood in the scoring parade, but never led in the game after that, being forced to come from behind three times to earn the draw.

Brilliant saves by Butch Ward and Thane Mann in the last minute of play preserved the stalemate. Ward managed to get his skate on Clow's drive with 33 seconds to go and Mann thwarted Burke with only 15 seconds left.

NINE PENALTIES

Of nine minor penalties, the Aces collected seven and the Royals only two, but playing coach Angie Carroll drew a double misconduct with less than five minutes to play. Once in the second period and again in the third the Aces had to play with two men short, but they managed to weather the Royals' assault on both occasions: Coke Grady scored twice for the Aces while Angie Carroll notched up a pair for the visitors.

The two penalties in the first period were both costly. Coke Grady scored for Aces at 3:24 while Dick Carroll was sitting out a penalty for holding, and Carroll made amends by tying the count a minute later as Grant Grady cooled his heels for tripping.

BRILLIANT JOB

Angie Carroll put the Royals ahead with a neat stick-handling job at 8:15. Claude Gaudet's brilliant shot beat Ward to even the count again, and Angie Carroll made the Ace defence look defenceless on a solo expedition that made the score read 3-2 for the Capital City crew.

The Aces got back on even terms early in the middle session, G. Grady's shot from deep left wing trickling through the short side. A wicked and badly screened drive by McLure put the Royals out in front again after 8 minutes of play. And with less

than 3 minutes to go Grant Grady poked a pass from a scramble to Benny Grady who left the Royals up ice to coast in on Ward and pick the open corner. The period ended with the final 4-4 score.

A hard-fought third period which featured five of the nine minor penalties failed to produce the winning goal. Vance Harris sat with the timers three times this frame to make his evening total four.

SUMMARY

First Period—1. Aces—C. Grady (L. Clow) 3:24; 2. Royals—D. Carroll (F. Burke, B. Steele) 4:39; 3. Royals—A. Carroll (Ward) 8:15; 4. Aces—C. Gaudet 12:10 5. Royals—A. Carroll (Whitlock) 18:09; Penalties—D. Carroll, Grant Grady.

Second Period—6. Aces—G. Grady (B. Grady) 1:22; 7. Royals—McLure (F. Burke, J. Burke) 7:59; 8. Aces—B. Grady (Grant Grady) 17:21 Penalties—C. Grady, Vance Harris.

Third Period—No scoring. Penalties—Grant Grady, V. Harris, Whitlock, V. Harris, A. Carroll (double misconduct), V. Harris.

Slops

Mann	10	13	13	36
Ward	18	8	11	37

Referees—Moe Goodwin and Walter Lawlor.

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December fifteenth, 1959

Vern Law Inks Pact

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pitcher Vern Law Monday became the first Pittsburgh Pirate to sign a 1960 contract.

Salary terms were not disclosed, but the right-hander, who won 18 last season, was reported to have received a substantial raise.

JET RECORD

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A world speed record of 1,216 miles an hour for jet planes was claimed Saturday by the air force. The previous record of 1,100,426 miles an hour was held by the French air force. Brig.-Gen. Joseph Moore, 45, set the record Friday at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., in an F-105 Thunderchief, flying at 36,000 feet.

CHRISTMAS TRAIN SERVICE

For the convenience of Prince Edward Island shoppers and travellers going home for Christmas, departure of CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS trains will be adjusted as follows:

SOURIS - MONTAGUE - GEORGETOWN

Train leaving Charlottetown for Souris, Montague and Georgetown at 2.30 p.m. will be held until 4.00 p.m. Dec. 23rd and 24th.

ELMIRA

Train leaving Souris for Elmira at 5.45 p.m. will be held until 7.15 p.m. on Dec. 24th.

SOUTHPORT - MURRAY HARBOR

Taxi leaving Charlottetown at 2.45 p.m. and train leaving Southport for Murray Harbor at 3.00 p.m. will be held until 4.15 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. respectively on Dec. 23rd and 24th.

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