



OFFICIALS OF THREE of the Big Four Football league teams chat informally at Montreal where they attended the league's annual meeting. Left to right: Eddie Emerson, Ottawa; Leo Bandurak, Montreal; Ralph W. Cooper, London; Frank Gibson, Hamilton; and Jim McCaffrey, Ottawa. (CP Photo)

WIFU Backing Foreseen For "No-Raiding" Policy

By The Canadian Press

Indications are that the Big Four will receive support from the Western Interprovincial Football Union annual meeting at Calgary this weekend on the eastern league's no raiding policy on National Football League players.

Three of the five western teams already have termed the move a "good one," and Moe Lieberman, president of the Canadian champion Edmonton Eskimos, has said he will ask the WIFU meeting to press for an agreement with the NFL in honoring players rights and contracts.

At its annual meeting last weekend, the Big Four in one session decided to respect player options and contracts, held by the NFL but the next day left the door open for further consideration on demand of Toronto Argonauts, who claimed they already have signed eight players from the American professional loop.

ASK MEETING

Lieberman said Eskimos would ask WIFU commissioner G. Sydney Halter of Winnipeg to again meet with NFL commissioner Bert Bell and arrange "some sort of fair and honorable agreement."

Dr. Beattie Martin, president of Saskatchewan Roughriders, also favored the no raiding pact with the NFL.

"We're all for that," he said. "It's about time it was done."

An unidentified spokesman from Winnipeg Blue Bombers, commenting in absence of president Ralph Miseren and vice-president Jim Russel, said:

"If a player is under contract, he should not be entitled to break it regardless of what sport it is. The players themselves should honor the contracts they sign. The Big Four move on this touchy subject is one in the right direction."

FAVOR BOWL GAME

The officials of the other two clubs in the WIFU—British Columbia Lions and Calgary Stampeders—were not available for comment on the Big Four's proposal.

The eastern league's bid for either Montreal or Toronto as the site of the Grey Cup found partial support from the Bomber spokesman, who said he would prefer to have it played in Toronto.

However, Dr. Martin said he personally supports Vancouver as the site for the 1955 Canadian final.

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8 Prince Rupert Daily News
Thursday, January 20, 1955.

First Newfoundland Youth Signs Pro-Hockey Contract

By ALEX DIMEO
Canadian Press Staff Writer

MONTREAL © — When George Robert Faulkner signed a contract last fall with Shawinigan Falls Cataracts of the Quebec Hockey League, it was a "first" in the history of Canada's national winter sport.

George just turned 21, is from Bishop Falls, Newfoundland. He is the only player from the 10 provinces to break into pro hockey ranks on the mainland.

"Nothing I've ever done on the ice may be the first," signed that contract, he said in an interview after signing his first pro contract.

"I was set to report to St. John's Quakers in the Western Hockey League when I got a call from Kenny Reardon,桂林人, general manager, asking my plans for the season."

LURE OF QUEBEC

"I told him about the Quakers and he advised me to hold off for a while. A few days later he told me to report to Shawinigan and I was signed."

After a whirl in intermediate hockey in Newfoundland, Faulkner went to Quebec City and played the 1954-55 season with the now-defunct junior B Quebec Citadelles.

He then went back to Grand Falls, a few miles from Bishops Falls, for the 1955-56 season.

Faulkner, 5' 7 1/2, 175 pounds,

is a blonde leftwinger who plays with Shawinigan Falls Cataracts of the Quebec Hockey League.

When there's no hockey between games and practices—and the soccer fields and paper mills of Newfoundland are far away, chances are George is in his bedroom strumming away on either his banjo or guitar.

"After all," he said, "I haven't got a girl friend and a man has to do something."

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