

# Bob Greenlaw gives his views on Trans Canada

# INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL

The controversial subject of Intercollegiate Football in Eastern Canada has been tossed about much in recent years. In an interview with F/L Bob Greenlaw, referee-in-chief of the N.S.F.L., some startling views were put forth, both in regard to the football of the next decade and that of the immediate future.

### CONFERENCE

He expressed the opinion that a Maritime, or at least a Nova Scotia Intercollegiate League, could be formed in the next few years. F/L Greenlaw both in popularity and calibre of play, until it rivalled the leagues of Upper Canada. The stage would then be set for Intercollegiate Football on a Dominion-wide basis. There would probably be 3 or 4 leagues or conferences with the winners of each playing off in games similar to the "Bowl" games of the United States.

Thus we see the possibility in the next decade of a team from Dalhousie playing University of British Columbia in an all-Canadian final. Service Leagues could be set up in much the same way and games such as the famous Army-Navy games could be run off.

### COLLEGES OUTDRAW PROS

Of course these statements are mere hypotheses, but the fact remains that football is quickly becoming one of Canada's best liked sports. These changes and forecasts can only become reality with the solid backing of the fans, and it is felt in many quarters that the big boom in Canadian football will come in Intercollegiate play rather than in the professional ranks. With the suitable facilities such as stadiums and lights the colleges would eventually out-draw the pros.

Referee-in-chief Greenlaw reasons that if Regina, with a population similar to that of Halifax, can draw twenty to twenty-five per cent of its people to a game, why couldn't Halifax with a good strong collegiate squad, draw as much?

### SERVICE LEAGUE?

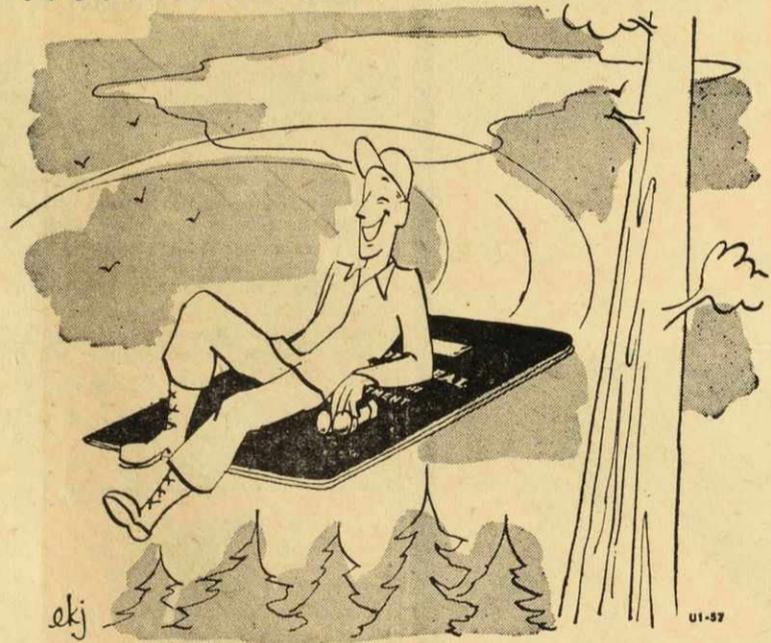
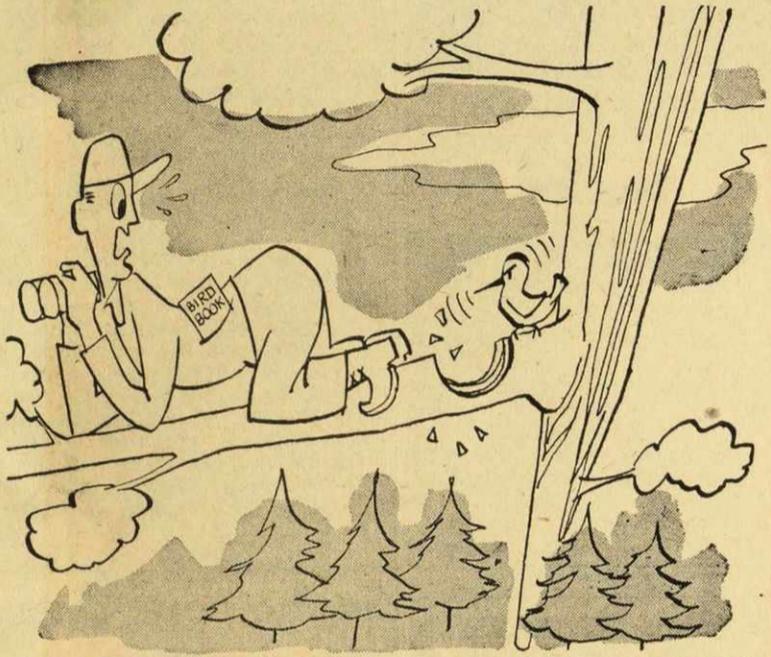
Coming back to the more immediate problem, that of Maritime football, several questions arise. If an intercollegiate loop were formed, would the service teams find replacements for Dalhousie and St. F.X. The answer is an emphatic "yes" from referee Greenlaw. The gaps could be filled by another service team, perhaps from the navy, or even a civilian squad. This league would continue to play at an intermediate level and would in time graduate to a senior league.

The intermediate league would take part in C.R.U. playdowns while the colleges would stick inclusively to intercollegiate play, with the exception of the odd exhibition game between the leagues.

With the increase in popularity of the game in these parts it seems quite conceivable that Halifax could support both a service league and an intercollegiate league provided that the schedules did not coincide too much.

It can be seen, then, that the future holds bright hopes for football

on the collegiate level, even on a Canada wide basis. The time is coming for these changes to take place, the only question remains how soon will we be ready for them.



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