

Cenotaph Service

Former Hurricanes Planning Cup Reunion

It was a sort of little reunion to announce a big reunion that brought a select group of former Royal Canadian Air Force types together yesterday in Dow's Golden Crown room.

The big reunion will be the Grey-Cup-time gathering of the 1942 Grey Cup champion RCAF Hurricanes. Yesterday was a preview of what is to come. And when it comes, those bomb shelters may serve a useful purpose after all.

"It was the last truly amateur team to win the Grey Cup," insisted Donald Durno. "My pay-off was \$15, two pounds of butter and a pound of tea."

Humor abounded during the three-hour session, but the more serious aspects of wartime football weren't overlooked.

"Seven of the boys gave their lives for Canada," said Durno. "and the primary reason for the reunion is to pay tribute to their memory."

There will be a service at the City Hall Cenotaph at 11 a.m., Friday, Nov. 30, when the old hurricanes will lay a wreath. It is expected the RCAF, in addition to participating at the cenotaph ceremony, will arrange a flypast.

The seven war victims were Eddie Thompson, Jack Buckmaster, George Oliphant, Eddie Ierton, Truck Langley and two U.S. players with the team, Eddie Sarvis and Eddie Posavage.

Group Capt. Gordon Richards, who was officer commanding No. 1 Initial Training School when the Hurricanes were born, and Lew Hayman, who coached the team, fondly recalled the growing pains of what had seemed insurmountable handicaps. Among these was a complete lack of football knowledge admitted by Mr. Richards, who retired from the RCAF

recently. He learned swiftly, and smoothed the team's path to the Grey Cup.

Trainer of the team was Johnny Murray, now deputy chief of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Department.

"When I was trainer of Argonauts I thought Herbie Boynton was as tight-fisted a manager as I would ever see. When I was asked to train the Hurricanes, I figured I wouldn't have that trouble, but the first thing Spike Jackson (Hurricanes manager) said to me was: 'We haven't any money.'"

Durno recalled proudly that the Hurricanes weren't packed as a service team could have been in those days.

"All the players were fellows who had enlisted in the RCAF before football was mentioned. Nearly all of the fellows were from this area. There was no bringing in stars just for football."

The Hurricanes won eight and tied one of 10 league games in the Ontario Rugby Football Union that season. The lone defeat was at the hands of Oakwood Indians, by a 15-6 margin. Annis Stukus, scored all 15 Indian's points with two touchdowns, a field goal, convert and single.

The Hurricanes beat Balmy Beach 24-0 in a midweek sudden death final; beat Ottawa Uplands RCAF in the East final 18-13, then downed Winnipeg RCAF Bombers, 8-5 in the Grey Cup game.

Hurricanes who will attend the reunion are: Jack Alexander (London, Ont.); Bill Stukus (Edmonton); Dr. Earl Kennedy (Detroit); Dr. Jack Parry (Chatham); Joe Richman (Montreal); Jim Brandham; Jack Taylor (Ottawa); Mike Ozarko (Ottawa); Art West, Charlie Prince, Art Evans, William (Stumpy) Edmond, Judge E. W. Kendrick (Kirkland Lake); Red Reynolds (St. Catharines); John Pope (Calgary); Don Crowe (Vancouver); Jake Gaudaur (Hamilton); Lew Hayman, Paul McGarry, Group Capt. Gordon Richards, Fred Kijek (Ottawa); Don Durno, Cece Foderingham, Johnny Murray, John Jarvis, W. E. (Spike) Jackson, Tom White, C. A. Birge, Johnny Fripp (Ottawa).