



On The Main Street

Many hockey fans have had their ears glued to the radio in recent days, interested in what has been termed a "mad melee". It is true that fans relish the odd fisticuff between players on the ice. These are usually short lived, but the most excitable fans look with displeasure when these pushing and shoving incidents turn into angry fights, such as the recent brawl when players and spectators lost their heads.

In days of yore when local fans jammed the old rink on Lindsay Street South, clashes on the ice were frequent but as a rule were under control.

Senior fans recall one big ding-dong fight when the old rivals, Peterborough, were the scrappers. It was a cold night in January and the old "band box" was literally bursting at the seams and standing room was at a premium. A hectic struggle ended in a loss for Lindsay and fans were in a fighting mood.

Strange what started the night fracas. For some unknown reason a worker in a laundry on William Street N. startled a number of merchants and clerks when he chased a young girl in silk

pyjamas across the intersection of Kent and William Streets and some people at the time said the man was waving a butcher knife. He failed to overtake the fleeing maiden.

Following the incident, and after the hockey game, a large number of hockey fans gathered in front of a laundry on the south side of Kent Street, near the rink and smashed the big window. That was all. However when a few excited hockey fans gathered on Kent Street and moved up the main stem and turned north on William Street and smashed a large window, the one man police force stepped into action and Chief John Short was not in the least scared. Drawing his leather covered billie he swung into action.

He placed the steel bracelets on the worst offender and "marched" the offender off to the town lock-up at the town hall. The brawl ended and next evening The Daily Post headlined the brawl and acclaimed Chief Short. The episode in hockey history ended in a number of police court fines which were paid, the town treasury reaping a bit of monetary gain.