

Direct Entries to N.O.H.A. Instead of Group System

Senior "A" and Junior "B" Series Likely to Be Liveliest in North This Season

Delegates to the annual meeting of the N.O.H.A., held in Haileybury last Saturday, decided to require every team to make direct entries to the Association rather than through groups, giving every club voting powers at annual gatherings, rather than having one voting delegate for the whole group of teams. Allan Fish, secretary of the Porcupine and District Junior "B" group, was the lone opponent of the new proposal. He believed Junior "B" groups were an asset to the Association.

The outlook for Junior "B" clubs provided much of the discussion at the meeting, and the upshot of the deliberations on this phase of the proceedings was a reduction in fees for this class of hockey to five dollars, where previously it had been ten. Under a recommendation of the executive which met prior to the general session, the fee was to have been kept at the higher figure, but M. B. Auger, vice-president, took the delegates he favored cutting it in half, and this suggestion was adopted when a resolution—which also kept senior fees at \$30, reduced intermediates to \$10 from \$30 and raised Junior "A" to \$20 from \$10—to this effect, carried.

The Junior "B" champions of the N.O.H.A. may get a crack at the O.H.A. winners of the same class, although this is a matter to be worked out later between representatives of the two governing bodies. President Ross Clemens of the O.H.A. said the Junior B. series had proved very popular with his organization, and wound up with a round-robin series to determine the winners and he thought that any proposal to curtail this would bring some disapproval from the clubs there.

Charlie Taylor of Falconbridge said it seemed likely more Junior "B" hockey would be played in the N.O.H.A. next winter than of any other class, and teams and players would look forward to meeting the O.H.A. champions in play-offs.

All officers of the association, as noted last week, were re-elected by acclamation, the vacancy on the executive committee being filled by Jimmy Aspin of Kirkland Lake, when his colleague from that camp, C. C. (Doc.) Ames withdrew.

The business session of the Association was followed by a banquet, at which addresses were delivered by George Dudley, president of the C.A.H.A., Ross Clemens, president of the O.H.A., Dr. Nash president of the N.O.H.A., Life Member W. A. Thompson and others.

The amendment proposed to the terms of affiliation with the O.H.A. by which some of the play-off games are to be played on Northern ice, was carried. Dr. Nash said that when the original terms were adopted, there was no artificial ice in N.O.H.A. territory and no change had been made in them in succeeding years, though there were now four artificial ice surfaces available.

The amendment regarding investigation of a team's standing was carried. It arose out of the action of the sub-committee last winter, which demoted the Soo Junior team from "A" to "B" status. W. H. Becking of Soo, said his club did not quarrel with the decision, admitting good judgment had been shown, and that the Soo team was not of Junior "A" calibre, but did object to the "abruptness" with which the action (by telegram) was taken.

Reviewing last year's activities Dr. Nash told the meeting it had been a successful season. He was very proud of the senior hockey group in the Porcupine district. It had profited by the mistakes made in Sudbury and Kirkland Lake, and had not concentrated on an Allan Cup team, but had gone in for competitive hockey. The other policy, the president said, had killed hockey in the two mining camps. Dr. Nash favored having the president of the O.H.A. on the N.O.H.A. executive and, commenting on the fact that there "are about twelve or thirteen voting delegates here when there should be forty or fifty,"

said control of hockey had shifted out of the hands of the N.O.H.A. executive into those of groups. Each club should be a member of the N.O.H.A., he said.

The Association holds \$3,000 in government bonds and has a bank balance of \$812.25, secretary-treasurer Sutherland said.

Aged Bucke Township Resident Found Guilty of Manslaughter

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prior to her death. W. H. Rice, who resides on the West Road told the court he had seen the accused at about 5.30 a.m. on Saturday, May 31st, on his way towards Haileybury on foot, but had not talked to him at the time.

H. E. Blackwall, bailiff for the district, testified that he had served two notices to Harry Van Tent, father of the victims, one about May 20th and the other a few days later. The first was an order to vacate the house and the second a summons to appear before the district judge in chambers to explain why the order had not been complied with. Questioned by Mr. Inch, the witness said the action for eviction had been a suit by Arthur Dorvilliers and was against Harry Van Tent only, not against the children. He had seen the accused on one of his visits, but had not discussed the affair with him. Mr. Inch put the following question to the witness: "Do you remember the old man saying he didn't give a damn whether Arthur gets them off or not?" Mr. Blackwall replied "No." This concluded the proceedings on Monday and the jury was placed in charge of two special constables, after receiving a warning from Mr. Justice Makins that they must not discuss the case during the adjournment.

First witness when the court resumed on Tuesday morning was Albert Caron, who had also been at the Van Tent home during the Friday evening. He described for Mr. Dean the layout of the house, stating that on the upper floor where the three girls slept, the windows were only about eight inches wide and two feet long, too small, he said, for anyone to crawl through. The boy had slept on the ground floor. One door of the house had been nailed up and only one was in use, the witness said. He said he and his brother had stayed about an hour in the Dorvilliers shack, where the accused had sung a song for them. The Van Tent house had been built about five years ago and had been occupied by Dorvilliers until about a year ago, when he had moved to the shack. He had been on good terms with the children, Caron said, had sometimes brought them candy and they had done his washing and mending.

Provincial Constable Arthur Souliere, the next witness, said he had been called by Norman McGowan at about 5.45 on the morning of May 31st and told of the fire. When he got there the house was down and the Caron boys and McGowan were throwing water on the fire from pails. He could see the outlines of three bodies in the embers; Dorvilliers was not there and his shack was locked. Later, on the officer's return to Haileybury, he had met the accused, whom he did not previously know, but he told him his name and where he lived, asking "Why?" Has something happened out there?" He then said he had left home at around 10.30 the previous night and had spent

the intervening time on the way to Haileybury and in walking about waiting for the post office to open that he might get his mail. He had slept a little in the open, he said. "Why take me? I didn't set the fire. You've got the wrong man," the witness quoted Dorvilliers as saying.

Later Constable Souliere said he searched the shack and found a small cardboard box partly filled with oily rags, which was produced in court. The witness told of having again questioned the accused and of securing a statement from him on June 5th, after he had been warned in both English and French by the witness and Inspector P. T. Harding of the Fire Marshal's office, that anything he said might be used against him later in evidence. He was sure the accused thoroughly understood the warning. The statement had been given in the shack, after Dorvilliers had cleared the table and made places for the interviewers. Constable Souliere said. The reason he wanted to tell the truth, the accused said, was that Van Tent had been notified to leave the house two years ago, and again recently, but had paid no attention. He then related how he had spent the night in the shack, arising early on Saturday morning and preparing to come to Haileybury. He had lit his pipe as he passed the Van Tent home and had then touched the same match to a piece of tarpaper protruding between the outer boards of the wall and continued on his way. The fire did not start quickly, he said, but when he looked back from the top of the hill on the road, it was "burning quite a bit," and he was frightened. He was sorry about the children, he said in the statement, as he had always liked them, and later he found that he could neither eat nor sleep and decided to tell the truth. A further statement had been made to Inspector S. Oliver later in the day, and Constable Souliere said, after a similar warning had been given and each statement had been signed by Dorvilliers with "his mark."

S. Graham, the next witness stated he had seen the accused in the police car on June 5th when Inspector Harding had requested that he tell him the story. To Mr. Graham, Dorvilliers had repeated that he had set fire to the house "at the southeast corner," and that he "did not wish to harm the children," but wanted to burn the house. Witness had known the accused for some 20 years, he said, and supplied him regularly with his provisions.

The accused himself was called to the stand by Mr. Inch and told a similar story to that contained in the statements given the officers last June. He had started early to come to Haileybury to get his pension cheque, due that day, and for provisions. He gave

his age as 77, said he could neither read nor write, but told his story of the fatal fire quite readily. He had had no intention of burning the house when he left his own shack, he said, but offered no explanation of the impulse which had made him apply the match after lighting his pipe. He said the property belonged to his son and that he was trying to watch over it.

Dorvilliers said he did not know the children were in the house at the time. He had seen the eldest girl and "Bill" Hoover in the garden the previous day, but had not

seen any of them at night. They sometimes went away for days at a time, he said, but he acknowledged he did not try to find out if they were home when he set the fire. Arthur (the son) had tried to get the family off the farm, he said, but he was friendly with the children. He just wanted to burn the house, not to harm them, he said. Asked by the Crown: "Did you know the house was going to burn when you walked away?" the accused replied "It couldn't be no other way."

By permission of the court

Mr. Inch made a statement to the effect that shortly before the fatal fire an arrangement had been made between Van Tent and Arthur Dorvilliers, whereby the family would be permitted to remain in the house until January, 1942. The accused had not been informed of this, Mr. Inch said, so far as he knew.

The evidence was concluded at noon on Tuesday, and when the court resumed, the addresses of counsel and His Lordship were given, taking up just an hour. One hour later the jury returned their verdict.



"Jim's letter was censored" ...

● Things are happening where Jim is . . . in the navy . . . things Jim is not allowed to write about. If Jim could write what he would like to write, we at home might be more concerned about the war. Jim says "everything's O.K." and that's what we expect from fellows like Jim . . . but things aren't O.K. or Jim would be back home at his regular job. We've got to do our part, too. One thing we can do is lend our money to pay for the war. We've got to see to it that the men in

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Oct. 24—Haileybury at Liskeard.

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