

W.O.A.A. Hockey Proposal

Representatives from the Tanners board some new proposals from W.O.A.A. president Jack Crewson at a meeting of all intermediate 'B' hockey teams in Paisley Saturday afternoon.

The W.O.A.A. had proposed splitting the northern and southern teams up into more competitive groupings to improve the quality of the hockey and bring new faces into the respective arenas. Efforts were being made to have all the Int. B teams in their own league, the Int. C in another.

He suggested representatives from Orangeville, Durham, Walkerton, Kincardine, Goderich, Port Elgin and Acton's Bob Marshall and Hartley Coles that the two groups play an interlocking schedule.

Mr. Crewson's suggestion for the northern grouping was Goderich, Owen Sound, Kincardine, Warton, Port Elgin, Marford and Seaford.

His southern proposal included:

ACTON
DURHAM
ORANGEVILLE
WALKERTON
WATERLOO
HESPELER

They are all 'B' teams. Elora and Cheltenham were moved to another group. Delegates from the southern section, pleased with the proposed grouping, asked that the W.O.A.A. make certain both north and south finish at the same time to playoff six-ups could be avoided.

A second team from Owen Sound, the former Sr. Mercury, asked to be included in the league. Representatives looked rooly at the request the teams play international rules against Mercury, however, and voted to accept them if they played C.A.H.A. rules.

It was expected further entries would be filled from teams in other centres before the final date Wednesday. A meeting was set for Durham that evening (Wednesday) to finish plans.

Tanners Spurn O.H.A. Enter W.O.A.A. Int. 'B'

A special session of the executive of Acton Tanners weighed the advantages of entering the O.H.A. or W.O.A.A. hockey yesterday night. It was decided only the W.O.A.A. had much to offer Acton Tanners in the way of competitive intermediate hockey.

A motion was passed authorizing manager Ed Footitt and vice-president Ross Williamson to file an Acton entry in the W.O.A.A. at a meeting in Durham (Wednesday) presided over by the Ontario Hockey Association, Hespeler, Milverton, Walkerton, and Seaford.

Reports were heard from both the W.O.A.A. meeting in Paisley Saturday and the O.H.A. meeting in Kitchener Monday and the pros and cons of both organizations were discussed.

The best offer O.H.A. could make was a four team group consisting of Orangeville, Acton, Hespeler and Milverton with a possible fifth entry from Stratford. Prior knowledge that Orangeville and Hespeler intended to enter the W.O.A.A. leaving the Acton club in a two team group influenced the decision.

The W.O.A.A.'s proposal was a

six team Int. B grouping with Fergus, Orangeville, Durham, Hespeler, Walkerton and Acton. There was also the possibility of an entry from Milverton.

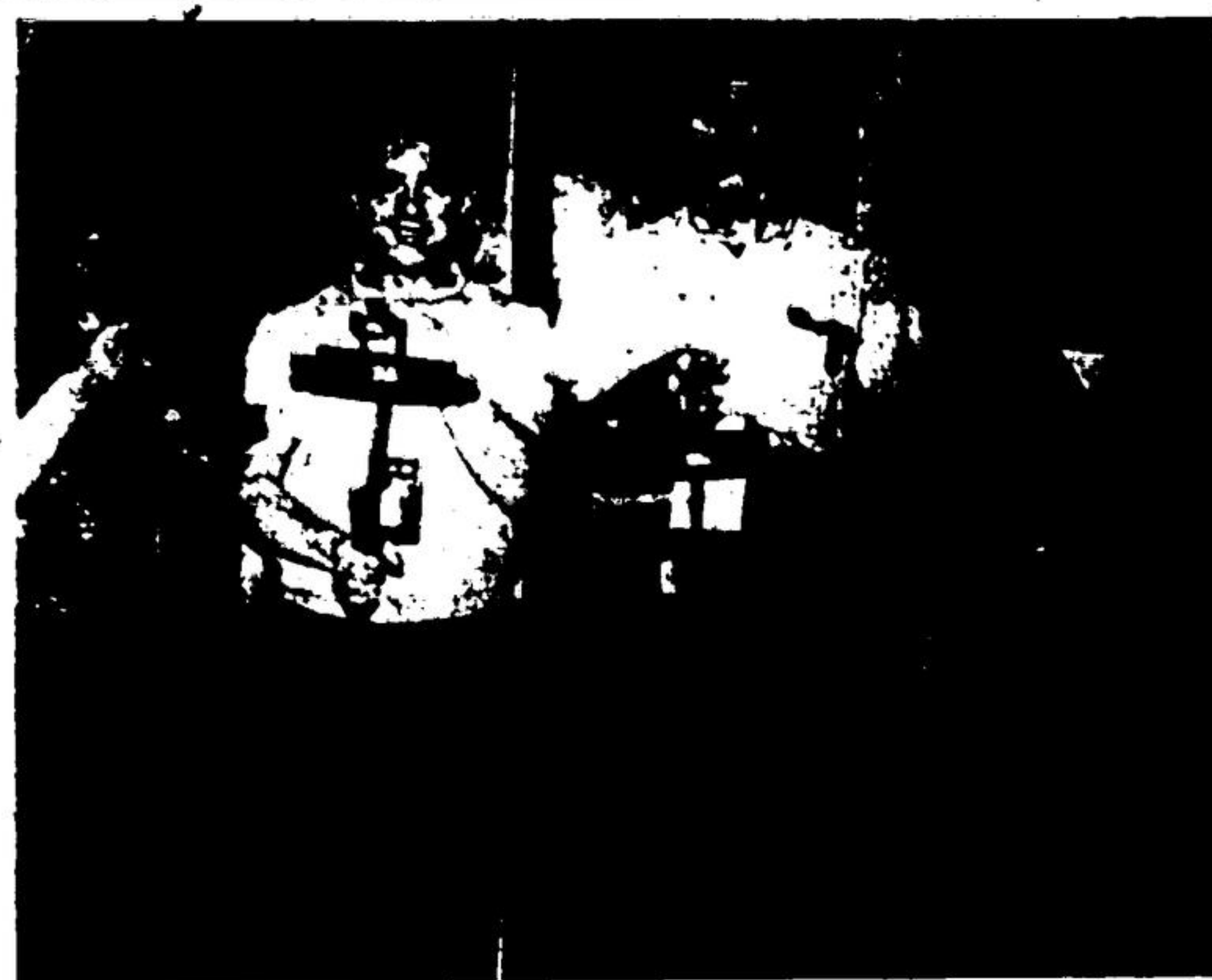
The executive felt a W.O.A.A. entry would be the only acceptable grouping although they preferred Milverton to replace the much further Walkerton. It was left to the delegates at a meeting in Durham Wednesday to make the final decision.

Junior management will return as coach of the Tanners this year and Ed Footitt will remain as manager. It was hoped the first practice would be held on Sunday but team weather has upset the ice-making schedule so it will be some time next week before the initial meeting is held.

Since they are devoted fans of the Tanners, the team which went to the Int. C final last season. Several players have indicated they would like to play in Acton colors this season but others will not be back.

Personnel of the club will not be decided until after the practice sessions are over. It's likely the league will start early in November.

★ FREE PRESS SPORTS ★



ACTON UNION DAIRY NUMBERS made a good showing at the Milton Legion's open dirt tournament on Saturday and won the consolation team championship. Her Lambert, Gil Malcolm, Bill Nicolak and Stan Collet are shown with the trophies they won for their prize. There were 29 four-man teams and 59 doubles teams competing in the day long tourney.

Ready and Rarin'

Industrial Hockey Starts Oct. 31st

If ice in the community centre is ready, the four team Acton Industrial Hockey League will open a 36 game schedule Sunday night, Oct. 31st. Plans for a start this Sunday were postponed when the warm weather impeded ice making.

Next Sunday's opening twin bill will be the earliest start in the league's history.

Fifty-six players have signed cards to staff the four teams who are content to start the season off labelled by numbers one, two, three and four. Plans to expand the league to six teams were discarded in favor of stocking each club with 14 players apiece.

Starting time for the Sunday doubleheader is 7 p.m. It winds up at 10 p.m.

Following is the complement of the teams with the schedule:

TEAM No. 1
Jim McDonald, Capt.
Andy Williams, Fred Currie, Al Holmes, Doug Ford, Wayne Wilson, Ron Mellon, Wayne Sheppard, Lorne Fyvie, Noah Rowell, Gord Mason, Ray Hawkins, Don Swackhamer and Gord Allen.

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TEAM No. 2
Gary Manoles, Capt.
Bob Sheppard, Ray Wallis, John Cunningham, Bill Ingles, Bruce MacPherson, Dave Papillon, Doug Black, Bob Doyle, Ron Schmidt, Ron Sheppard, Al Robinson, Mike Tchorezski and Edmund Miller.

TEAM No. 3
Stu McDonald, Capt.
Wayne Casemore, Don Lindsay, Fred Dunn, Mel Sheppard, Larry Purie, Ken Tuck, Irm Duffield, Doug Sheppard, Ed Hubble, Fred Andrews, Don Harris, Bruce Barber and John Kiesewetter.

TEAM No. 4
Tom Oakley, Capt.
Frank Anthony, Ken McIsaac, Frank Daley, Ken Cartwright, Harry Phillips, Jim Bullough,

Brian McCrystal, Ricky Henderson, George Williamson, Gary Ritchie, Milton Ball, Geoff McLaren and Bob Bruce.

SCHEDULE			
Oct. 24	— 14	Dec. 26	— 23
Oct. 24	— 23	Dec. 26	— 14
Oct. 31	— 42	Jan. 2	— 31
Oct. 31	— 31	Jan. 2	— 42
Nov. 7	— 14	Jan. 9	— 12
Nov. 7	— 21	Jan. 9	— 34
Nov. 14	— 32	Jan. 16	— 14
Nov. 14	— 14	Jan. 16	— 23
Nov. 21	— 31	Jan. 23	— 24
Nov. 21	— 24	Jan. 23	— 13
Nov. 28	— 12	Jan. 30	— 34
Nov. 28	— 41	Jan. 30	— 21
Dec. 5	— 14	Feb. 6	— 23
Dec. 5	— 32	Feb. 6	— 14
Dec. 12	— 42	Feb. 13	— 31
Dec. 12	— 13	Feb. 13	— 42
Dec. 19	— 34	Feb. 20	— 12
Dec. 19	— 21	Feb. 20	— 34

ACTON and DISTRICT FIGURE SKATING CLUB

REGISTRATION TO BE HELD
AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30th
FROM 10.30 A.M. TO 12.30 P.M.

- PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM FOR REGISTRATION
- PRE-SCHOOL — \$6.00
 - STUDENTS — \$12.00
 - FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS — \$17.00
(2 or more skaters in one family)
- 50% OF FEE PAYABLE ON REGISTRATION

SKATING HOURS
Saturdays — 10.45 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Age _____
Parent's Signature _____

O.H.A.'s Counter Proposal

The Ontario Hockey Association's proposal for an intermediate grouping involving Acton Tanners was very much like that of the W.O.A.A. in some respects. Both Orangeville and Acton were included in the prospective with question marks for places like Stratford, Fergus and Seaford.

Tanner president Ray Mason and secretary-treasurer George Haggitt attended an O.H.A. meeting Monday night at the Walpole House in Kitchener. Representatives were also there from Seaford, Milverton, Hespeler, Lucas, Stratford and Orangeville, as well as Bob Marshall and Hartley Coles of the Tanners.

O.H.A. immediate past president C. G. (Pat) Patterson of Guelph chaired the meeting which didn't resolve many of the conflicts which have risen from the O.H.A.'s handling of intermediate hockey.

Mr. Patterson was direct. He told the meeting there were nine possible entries in the area stretching from Fergus and Acton to Orangeville and Seaford. He stated the O.H.A. official admitted there were not too many other O.H.A. intermediate 'B' teams in the province.

There's another group in eastern Ontario, he said, and that's it.

His proposal was that the nine teams split into groups of three with Seaford, Lucas and Milverton in one 'B' group, Hespeler, Acton and Orangeville in another, and Stratford, Petrolia and Forest in an 'A' group. He mentioned the possibility of an interlocking schedule. Top two teams in each group would play off and the winner would meet the eastern Ontario champs for the O.H.A. title.

The proposal met instant rejection. Most teams felt it would involve too much travelling and didn't favor mixing up A's and B's.

Several representatives felt that the two bodies resolved their differences it would do much to eliminate the static condition of intermediate hockey in the province.

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New Motorcycle Restrictions Stem from Accident Increase

Two new restrictions on the operation of motorcycles have been announced by Transport Minister Irwin Hackett.

A person holding only a temporary instruction permit may no longer carry a passenger on the pillion seat of a motorcycle, and a person with a temporary permit is now prohibited from driving a rented motorcycle.

Mr. Hackett said the new regulations, which are effective immediately, stem from an intensive and continuing study of accidents involving motorcycles.

The number of motorcycles registered in Ontario has more than doubled in the past eight months, Mr. Hackett said.

"This development is the basic reason for the increase in motorcycle accidents this year. The

Tanner head Ray Mason said he didn't wish to be critical of the O.H.A. but the groups were not big enough.

"The crowd doesn't know what you're doing playing intermediate 'B', 'C' and 'D' teams in the same group," he asserted. "You've got to eliminate at least one team from the playoffs."

None of the representatives present would commit themselves but Mr. Patterson outlined what he considered to be another alternative for the teams.

He suggested they split into two groups: Stratford, Lucas, Seaford Forest and Petrolia would play in one — Milverton, Hespeler, Orangeville and Acton in the other.

This suggestion met with a more favorable response but most delegates sat on their thumbs. They wouldn't commit their teams to any action, Orangeville and Seaford were openly critical.

Earlier Mr. Patterson, who was assisted by O.H.A. executive member Don Hughes of Stratford, gave his reasons for the lack of condition of intermediate hockey in Ontario. Among the different classes of hockey into one group was the main opposition but he also charged the teams practiced themselves out of existence by buying in players. Their ban was money. Two district teams, now defunct, were cited as proof.

He reviewed the O.H.A.'s differences with the W.O.A.A. for the benefit of one Acton questioner, asserting most of it came because they operated under different sets of rules.

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Pounding the SPORTS BEAT

INTERMEDIATE HOCKEY, once the most popular form of the ice game, is sick. It's declined to the point where two rival bodies can not ice as many teams as one did a decade ago.

That's one conclusion this fuzzy-headed scribbler can draw after attending a W.O.A.A. meeting Saturday and an O.H.A. meeting Monday. And the O.H.A., after countless years denying it so, has admitted it in writing.

Here's one of their latest epistles: "The Ontario Hockey Association is attempting to revive Intermediate Hockey throughout the Province. While it is true, that there are a few strong groups operating, there has been a gradual decline in the number of clubs operating throughout the Province.

"The O.H.A. Executive is concerned about this decline, and has discussed the situation thoroughly on different occasions. The consensus of the Executive is that if we are to increase entries in the Intermediate series, we must return to "home brew" status in desired areas. While there have been several reasons presented for the decline in the Intermediate series, the most popular explanation seems to be that clubs trying to remain competitive, brought in players and offered payment. Then local players demanded equal treatment, and consequently teams priced themselves out of existence. I know this to be a fact in my own district.

"Another reason offered for the decline, is the change in manufacturing methods in industry, which has caused so many players to be employed on shift work. This is felt to be a factor in industrial municipalities.

"At the last Annual Meeting of the O.H.A., the Executive presented, and won unanimous approval of a resolution, empowering the Executive to set any regulations needed to get Intermediate Hockey back to the position where most towns had clubs operating in this series.

"This letter is being forwarded to all present and former operators of Intermediate clubs, and to editors of most papers throughout the jurisdiction of the O.H.A., with the hope that interest can be restored in the Intermediate series."

NOTHING THERE YOU DIDN'T already know or hadn't read in this column periodically for years, is there?

However, this scribbler never shakes the O.H.A. intermediate entries, until Monday's meeting in Kitchener. Then it was demonstrated forcibly that there are very few teams left in the province.

Asked how many other groups there were besides the one they were attempting to form that night "Pat" Patterson, immediate past president of the O.H.A., replied: "Not too many." Prodded further Mr. Patterson revealed there was only one other intermediate 'B' O.H.A. group in the province. It's situated in eastern Ontario, in the Naparoc area.

The entire intermediate structure of the O.H.A., once a thriving picture, came down to earth with a thump. It dissolved before my eyes. It made the W.O.A.A. look like the answer to a team's prayer.

SATURDAY, ALONG with convener Bob Marshall, Joe Milton and Jim McLaughlin from Orangeville, this scribbler made the jaunt to Paisley for a W.O.A.A. meeting.

Paisley, a picturesque settlement on the banks of the rocky, swift flowing Sauguenay river is proud of its Scottish heritage. In the council chambers, where the meeting was held, hangs a blue Scottish plaid. Someone on a visit from Scotland was proudly shown in during the hockey discussion.

While the bewhiskered portraits of Paisley's stern line of town fathers and early settlers looked on, W.O.A.A. president Jack Crewson fashioned a new deal for intermediate teams. He told representatives the Int. 'C' teams were now in two large groups, Elora and Cheltenham included.

Teams from towns with population from 2,000 to 5,000 would be parcelled into two groups and play Int. 'B' hockey.

There was a unanimous desire from most of the delegates to bring new faces into the arenas so a tentative arrangement was worked out splitting the strong northern group so Durham and Walkerton could enter the southern section. New entries would fill out both sections. There were possible entries from Seaford, Hespeler, Milverton and Streetville. All would play Int. 'B'.

The results of the meeting were satisfactory to most of the delegates and Durham confided to this reporter that they'd be delighted to move into the southern section. Fresh from their successful cup hunt last season the Durham club expected to be at full strength again this year.

RESULTS of the two meetings (which are reported elsewhere on this page) were forwarded to the Tanner executive at another meeting Tuesday night. They decided the W.O.A.A. presented a much more attractive proposition than the uncertainties of the O.H.A. so an entry was sent along with a delegation of Ed Footitt, Ross Barentine and Bob Marshall to a meeting in Durham last night (Wednesday).

The executive of the Tanners made every effort to investigate both sides of the story. Some members would have preferred to go into the O.H.A. but they realized Old Hatpin Annie had very little to offer in her diamond jubilee year.

Tanner president Ray Mason summed it up well when he told Monday's O.H.A. meeting it was time the two bodies (O.H.A. and W.O.A.A.) patched up their differences so intermediate hockey could have one strong organization instead of two weak ones.

So the hockey scene shifts now from the comfortable veins to the tense where the real battle will be fought. It's obvious the Tanners will have to ice their strongest contender yet to stay with an all Int. 'B' pack. Coach Junior Management will be handed the reins.

BEAT THIS... Skating by Monday is the objective of Harris Roe and his staff of ice-makers at the community centre. It's intended to play an exhibition here on Friday, Oct. 29th, against Georgetown's Junior Raiders... Industrial hockey league was to have started Sunday but it's been postponed until the following Sunday due to ice making difficulties... Cautious? Better get your application in...