

L.A.A.A. and Hamilton May Get Berths In Intercounty To Make 8-Club Loop

BOYLE MEMORIAL RECEIVES TROPHY

School Hockey Players and Speed Skaters Honored at Banquet.

London's future hockey greats of the public and separate schools were guests at a banquet given by the playgrounds and school hockey association last night at the Blue Dragon tea rooms, and as well, the ribbons and shields for the winners at the skating meet held in conjunction with the hockey finals were presented.

The affair last night, arranged by Supervisor Jerry Goodman and presided over by Dr. Bryant, chairman of the hockey association, was quite a spontaneous in its way as the big meet.

Boyle as school hockey champions of the city was presented with the Eddie McKay Memorial trophy by William Haddon, the donor. Sets of medals presented by the committee to the individual members of the three teams. In the semi-finals, and finals, Boyle, Telfair and Tecumseh.

Boyle won a double honor in that a surprise trophy, the Marr cup, presented by Gordon Marr, to the most valuable player to his team, went to Jack Fleming, the miniature goal-keeper of the winner.

Mr. Philip Poonock, represented the public utilities and Messrs. Rountree and Webster the playgrounds association.

Mr. Poonock said that the chief concern of the commission was to justify to the citizens the money spent on the playgrounds, and that the gathering of young hockey players was a splendid illustration of the work being done by the committee under the splendid supervision of Gerald Goodman.

The city playgrounds supervisor came in for many tributes from Inspector Wheeler and from the principals and representatives of schools, all of whom made brief speeches commending the splendid sportsmanship being shown by the school children in their sports.

The Westwells shield went to De La Salle, as the school winning the greatest number of trophies, and the Westwells shield went to De La Salle.

Clarence Hurd, winner of the Advertiser Silver Skates Derby, which proved to be a feature of the night, was presented with his new pair of silver speeders.

Stove Leaguers' C-h-a-t-t-e-r

Hamilton reports have it that Mike Baskin wants to go there, since he missed out on grabbing the management of the Port Huron club.

However, he has been told that the London club by the national commission, and it is likely that he will handle the Tecumseh.

Mike is nearly as good a comedian as Knotty Lee, and has a personality that soon makes itself felt on the ball field. He's probably a better ball player than Knotty from a purely baseball angle.

Sarnia threatens to keep the M.O. team off the Sarnia lot, but will the Sarnia fans stand up to the cutting up his antics a mere ferry ride away.

If Willie Carroll's trusted employee, Mister Wetzel, has his way, Thomas Halligan's club will be the London of the League of Nations. Mister Wetzel started the folks around the various cities when he signed a convict, who would join the team after his term with John Law was up. Now comes word that he has added a Cuban to the Hamilton roster.

The Cubans, and the Indians, named Tepez, and was with the Columbus team in the American association last season. He is a right-winger, and Indian playing on the infield, and convict number 4-11-41 playing in the center garden. The Cubans, Mister Wetzel will have to add an interpreter to his staff in order to interpret the signals.

The trouble with the convict player is that he will be well on his way to stealing home, and the whole will blow in the soccer field, which joins the local ball park, and he will think it is the "Dicks," and will be used out completing the piffing task. Big Chief Freeman will be back again, having signed a contract with the club at first base. The chief will wear his feathers and war paint in the first game, while the club will use ground cigars made from the choice cabbage for which his country is noted. All in all, it looks like a prosperous year for Mister Carroll, for if his high-salaried athletes do not make good on the diamond he will be able to open a side-show in which to exhibit his freaks.

The contract which Vance will eventually sign is a three-year one, calling for a total salary of \$47,500, which will be the pitcher an annual salary of \$15,533.33, the highest amount ever paid a National league twirler for a single season.

When it came time for Vance to attach his name to the document, he balked because it contained the ten-day release clause and paragraphs which gave the club the right to release him from his services by trade of sale and Manager Robinson the right to suspend him. Vance wants the club to release him removed, but under the laws of baseball it will be impossible for Squire Ebbets to grant him his request.

"While I was trying to sign Vance he told me he wanted \$25,000 a year, \$37,500 for two, or \$50,000 for three," said Ebbets.

"Vance was eager to get a three-year contract, but I told him the salary he wanted for that length of time was out of the question. When he saw Bobbie he talked it over with him and then he came back to me. I was willing to give him \$45,000, and we agreed on a compromise. I did not have two blank contracts at hand and he signed an agreement to sign a three-year contract for \$47,500. He gave me a slip of paper he signed. I signed another agreement to give him the kind of contract and gave him the bit of paper. The agreements have been binding and I consider him under contract to the club. It will be impossible for me to give him a contract with the clauses he objects to striking out."

"Last year Vance received a salary of \$30,000, and at the end of the season he got a present of \$2,500."

Jack Wisner, the tall pitching purchase from Rochester, is 15 pounds heavier this spring than last, and looks all the better for it. He is spare and without girth, and the added pounds adjust themselves readily to his lean length.

Jack is also a bridge hand they say. Jack thought "them was things" they built over rivers when he was in the Mint league.

When Bob Meusel signed a contract he was granted an increase over 1924, but didn't get the long term contract he asked.

"When you are going to make me pay you \$18,000 a year," asked Huggins when the negotiations were under way. "You are the best outfielder in baseball. If you want to be, why don't you make me pay you \$18,000 a year?"

"I haven't got any gun," replied Bob.

Isaacs, Quick Among Ten L.A.A. Players Assured

Sentiment All in Favor of Unity at Big Meeting.

MEET WEDNESDAY

At the end of last night's enthusiastic baseball meeting—probably packing more genuine enthusiasm to the square inch than any other meeting in years—unity in London's amateur baseball circles was at least in sight and there was a big probability that London would be represented in the intercounty baseball league.

It was a widely representative meeting and prospective senior players were present to the number of more than 15. The definite assurance of 10 senior players that they would play for the L. A. A. A. was given and a committee composed of Ex-Alderman John Anderson and Roy Cairncross with a third businessman to be added, will interview a large list of players with a view to selling them the idea of "One big team."

It was almost unanimously agreed that the intercounty league would be the biggest attraction London could get in an amateur way, and the meeting favored entry into this circuit, which provided, in Galt Terriers, champions of the province for three successive years.

However, the meeting was interrupted by the arrival home from the intercounty meeting of C. C. MacDougall, who said that the L. A. A. A. application with that of Hamilton Rowing club had been laid over for ten days. The O. B. A. A. has the final disposition of the clubs, but both Hamilton R. C. and London A. A. A. are to get permission before they can leave the league to which they are at present attached. Thus London A. A. A. will have to apply for permission to drop from the southern counties league before proceeding further.

Stratford given franchise. In the intercounty meeting, Stratford was granted a franchise in the league. Should L. A. A. A. drop out of the southern this would leave only St. Thomas and Sarnia amongst the seniors. It is figured that if the southern disbanded, St. Thomas and Sarnia might be sent into the Kent county group.

The intercounty will not accept the L. A. A. A. entry without the Hamilton R. C. as that would give it an odd number of teams.

Ex-Alderman John Anderson, briefly but pointedly summed up the situation.

"London needs a good amateur ball club. Nobody is interested in petty bickering and it doesn't get the city far in baseball or in anything else. Forget the past and get together," was the gist of his remarks, which seemed to echo the meeting's sentiments.

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On the Side Lines With C.S.G.

Local amateur baseball is in a worse tangle than ever—temporarily. The L. A. A. A., when propaganda started in mid-winter to the effect that Orientals would be the lone London senior team in the Southern league, became more insistent, decided last week to try for a berth in the Intercounty.

A berth in the Intercounty, it was thought, might give the players some unity of purpose and would certainly assure London fans the best baseball to be had in amateur ranks.

Thursday night the meeting of Southern league will be held here. Stratford is already out of the senior program that was marked out by propaganda, and Lucan and Strathroy want to play intermediate. This leaves Sarnia and St. Thomas as senior prospects for some other league providing the Southern gives the L. A. A. A. permission to enter the Intercounty.

If a senior team is entered under Orientals, there would be still three clubs in the Southern, and the loop might be preserved. Since Orientals, or at least inspired propaganda, had already excluded the L. A. A. A. from senior participation, they cannot very well oppose the latter's withdrawal.

Consensus of opinion at last night's baseball meeting seemed to indicate that most of the baseball played in London this year would be played across the river as it has been since the '80s. Most of the explorers who had looked over the new ball plant at Queen's park figured that it would take another season before it would be ready for senior baseball.

A long distance call took one of the Intercounty officials from the meeting yesterday. It was from London. It was very perturbed—the voice. The voice said it did not know that the meeting of the Intercounty was being held that day or that Stratford was dropping out of the Southern. It said also that the Orientals had all the players of the city signed. There were quite a few running around loose last night who had not signed yet.

The players this year will pretty well decide their own course. Government by players does not always produce harmony, but with a mixture of fans and players working on one committee, something ought to be accomplished here this year.

Nurml could live on the outskirts and still be five minutes from the center of the city.

Don't order your opera glasses yet. Baseball will still be played at Tecumseh park.

It is doubtful if Montreal Victorias will throw a greater fright into the Niagara Falls team when they meet tonight in Montreal than the team from the little town of Grimsby did. All they appear to have on Thursday night with Sons of Ireland. However, it would be poetic justice in a way if the Falls crew were to succumb to the Easterners when they were still suffering from the effects of their Grimsby series.

It was playing three games in a week and injuries that put Grimsby out as much as the Falls. But such is the luck of draws and of having capable reserve and lots of 'em.

In meeting Victorias, the Falls meets up with a club which has perhaps older hockey traditions than any other sporting organization in existence. The Victoria club of the '80s had much to do with developing hockey.

Clubs like the Victorias, about whose conduct of athletics there has never been even a whisper, are few enough in these days when sport is passing through one of its most hectic phases.

"I'm going to introduce legislation for more alcoholic content in beer and less money discount in amateur athletics," said Slippery Silas Pincinney, when interviewed by the Bingville Bugle reporter this morning.

Some of these here athletes invest 25 cents in an amateur card and they get a million per cent return.

"There wouldn't a been an O.T.A. only some couldn't take it or leave it alone. It's getting to be 'same in sport."

Finals in Wossa Begin Tomorrow

Central Juniors To Play Opening Tilt in Mitchell.

Central college juniors will in all probability meet Mitchell high school in the first game of the finals for the Junior Wossa hockey championship tomorrow in Mitchell.

Dr. Smith, the secretary of the association, announced yesterday that the first game will be played on that date if ice is available.

The locals won the right to enter the finals by beating the strong Sarnia and Alvinston teams, and are picked to cop the title. Vic Wong and Harry Louder are the reasons that Central has gone so far in the race, and these two boys should about make the difference in the strength of the teams in the finals.

Coach Adamson has kept the boys out of the lay-off and they are all eager to go. Confidence reigns in the local camp as to the outcome of the series. The whole team has improved wonderfully since the start of the season, when they were considered just an odd number of players.

They defeated the strong Sarnia and Alvinston teams, and are picked to accompany the team and special train may be chartered. All through the year the students have been giving wonderful support, but now the "Rah-Rah" boys are all set to rally former records.

Casey Stengel, who is training with the Braves, is still bursting forth with merry quips. At the end of a weary day he heard Hancock tell the grounds-keeper to get a shovel. "No, boy, get a broom," said Casey. "I don't believe you could pick 'em up on a shovel."

Casey, who has been the famous telegram years ago addressed as follows: "Dear Mother,—Will be home soon; they are starting to pitch curves."

BY AHERN.

OUR BOARDING HOUSE.

WELL SIR, DO YOU KNOW THE QUEEREST THING HAS HAPPENED! ABOUT SIX WEEKS AGO, I PUT A FIVE DOLLAR BILL IN THE BIBLE, AND FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT. I JUST REMEMBERED IT, BUT THE MONEY ISN'T THERE! WHAT I'M DRIVING AT, IS THIS, IF YOU TOOK THE MONEY, IT'S THE FIRST TIME YOU EVER LOOKED IN THE BIBLE!

HMF—I GATHER FROM YOUR INSINUATION THAT YOU POINT THE FINGER OF ACCUSATION DIRECTLY AT ME! EGAD WOMAN, I WOULD HAVE YOU KNOW, THAT BECAUSE OF MY HONESTY, I WAS ONCE ENTRUSTED WITH THE SAFE DELIVERY OF SEVEN MILLIONS IN GOLD ACROSS THE BANDIT INFESTED WASTES OF THE MONGOLIAN PLAINS! AND YOU WOULD CENSURE ME OVER THE DISAPPEARANCE OF A MISERABLE FIVE DOLLAR BILL.

BAH!

WHEN IN DOUBT, BLAME THE MAJOR

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SEMI-FINAL DRAW.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, March 9.—On account of soft ice the Listowel hockey team did not go to Brantford today, the H. L. match being postponed till Wednesday evening, when a number of local fans plan to journey with the players, who will begin the game with a lead of four.

Applications of Hamilton and London Are Laid Over

Intercounty League Executive Awaits Sanction of H. A. B. A. and O. B. A. A.

ACCEPT STRATFORD

Special to The Advertiser.

Galt, March 9.—The London A. A. A., through C. C. McDougall, today made application for a berth in the Intercounty baseball league at a meeting held in the C. C. rooms, but no definite action was taken by the league.

Stratford A. A. A. and the Hamilton Rowing club also asked for franchises. Stratford, represented by J. Edwards and A. McKenzie, declared they would not enter the Southern Counties league if Sarnia was in, due to the heavy travelling expenses to the Tunner town.

After considerable discussion Stratford's application was accepted because of the city's geographical location and the fact that they were former members of the Intercounty.

The acceptance of Stratford, the Intercounty senior group will now be composed of Stratford, Guelph, Kitchener, Preston, Galt and Brantford.

Mr. McDougall, president of the claims of the L. A. A. A., said that while the baseball situation there was in a turmoil, he felt the air would be cleared after a meeting tonight. He said if they did enter they would have a strong outfit. The point was raised as to whether the O. B. A. A. would sanction London's coming into the Intercounty.

There was a slight opposition to London's application because of the long trip. But nothing definite was done. It being felt that the O. B. A. A. would be consulted, and since the sub-committee had been formed, that would give the London men a chance to find out just where they are.

President W. A. Smith of the Intercounty was nominated by the meeting as a candidate for the executive, it being felt that since this circuit was the leading senior group in the O. B. A. A. it was entitled to representation on the governing body, and that Mr. Smith was well qualified for the office.

The league decided to nominate W. J. Snyder of Hamilton for the vacant secretaryship. The executive, it being felt that since this circuit was the leading senior group in the O. B. A. A. it was entitled to representation on the governing body, and that Mr. Smith was well qualified for the office.

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SOFTBALL BODY TO MEET IN GALT

Big Year Ahead Means Busy Session at Annual Meeting.

Softball, which made tremendous strides last year, is probably in for a record season in 1925, and therefore, the annual meeting to be held at Galt on Good Friday will probably see some important business transacted that will enable the Ontario Amateur Softball association to keep pace with the striding game.

Last year saw less dissatisfaction with the rules than in previous years, but there is still much to be done in standardizing the game.

There are probably a flock of amendments to this meeting. Notice of amendments must be given two weeks prior to the annual meeting by a two-thirds vote.