

agreed, were our "best". The three Canadian NHL team leaders and Clarence Campbell, the veteran, Montreal-based president of the NHL, guaranteed their cooperation. So did Mr. Eagleson, who by this time was the leading agent for hockey players as well as the chief actor in affairs of the NHL Players Association.

The panels of Hockey Canada's umbrella, despite their differing textures, agreed in the determination to assert Canadian supremacy by icing a "national"

team which would include the Orrs and Esposito of the NHL.

World tourney lost

The first assay of Hockey Canada was diplomatic. The triennial meeting of the IIHF was held in Switzerland in July 1969. There was a narrow failure to get free use of pro players. The compromise resolution would have permitted Canada to use nine non-NHL pros on its national team, then preparing for the 1970 World Tourna-



Canadian Press Photo

Paul Henderson, who scored the winning goal for Canada in the tense eighth game of the series, got an uproarious welcome on his return. He is pictured waving to thousands massed in Toronto's

downtown square as he is held aloft by goalie Tony Esposito (left) and Alan Eagleson, ubiquitous executive director of the NHL Players Association.